



Daily Report

Near East & South Asia

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Inter-Arab Affairs

GCC Foreign Ministers Meet in Jeddah

LD0509195190 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic
1800 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Excerpts] Their Highnesses and Excellencies the foreign ministers of the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] member countries gathered this evening at the palace of conferences in Jeddah for a meeting of the 36th session of the ministerial council under the chairmanship of Yusuf bin-al-Alawai bin-'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs of the Sultanate of Oman, with the participation of the [Saudi] Foreign Minister, His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal; Kuwaiti Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah; Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn-Mubarak al-Khalifah; UAE Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Rashid 'Abdallah al-Nu'aymi; Qatari Foreign Minister Mubarak Bin-'Ali al-Khasir, and GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Bisharah.

At the beginning of the meeting, the Omani minister of state for foreign affairs delivered the following speech:

Your Highnesses and Excellencies, brothers, peace and God's mercy be upon you. I would like to open the 36th session by offering my profound gratitude to the government of the custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, for the generous hospitality and warm welcome accorded to us by his wise government and loyal people. In this context I would like to say that this session assumes a special importance that supercedes previous sessions. It is being held while our region is passing through most difficult and critical circumstances. The Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, the violation of its national sovereignty, the occupation of its territories, and the tragedies and loss of life and property caused by that are a serious precedent—not only in inter-Arab relations, but the world has not witnessed anything like it since World War II. [passage omitted]

I would also like to thank the sisterly and friendly countries which hastened to send their forces in response to the defense requirements of the Gulf region. It was thanks to the speedy way in which these forces were sent that the possibility of a widescale war breaking out was stopped, and the security deterrent in the region was bolstered.

Brothers, if there is anyone who says that opportunity should be given to a peaceful solution, that opportunity has been given and there is still time to redress matters. The GCC is eager to reach a peaceful solution, and it has expressed its readiness for that in accordance with the resolutions of international legitimacy. However, the blame is on Iraq, the other side of this problem, which has not responded to the Arab leaders' advice and other international initiatives. Brothers, despite the enormity of the shock caused by the Iraqi invasion of the State of Kuwait and the great responsibilities that consequently fell on the the Arabian Gulf countries, they still adhere to Arab solidarity as the pan-Arab umbrella for our regional

issues and problems. We believe that if there are sincere intentions and clear objectives, it will be possible to find a solution based on the unconditional comprehensive and complete withdrawal of Iraqi troops from the State of Kuwait, and the return of legitimacy to it. This solution would spare our region and the Arab world from consequences which none of us could predict. Arabs are now invited to adopt a unanimous stance to serve peace.

The continued stance of some fraternal Arab countries, which could not define their position as a result of not perceiving the dangers and conditions of the current situation, increases the possibilities of the eruption of war and exposes the Arab region to grave dangers.

Therefore, we call on them to reconsider their position for the sake of the national and pan-Arab interests of the Arab nation.

In spite of the gravity of the crisis and its destructive effects on our region, we remain committed to our basic pan-Arab causes, at the forefront of which are the Palestinian cause and supporting the national reconciliation in Lebanon.

This tragic situation will not make us forget the fraternal bond which binds us to the fraternal Iraqi people, and the principled solidarity felt by the GCC countries toward the Arab people, regardless of the aggressive policies adopted by that people's political leadership.

We regret that the Iraqi people continue to be thrown into the whirlpool of wars with their neighbors and brothers. Therefore, we call on the Iraqi leadership to respond to the call of logic and reason. It is not yet too late for the Iraqi leadership to adopt more responsible stances toward peace and security and to repudiate aggression and interference in the internal affairs of its neighbors.

Here it pleases me to stress that we in the GCC countries are supporters of love, peace, and cooperation within regional and international frameworks, and that we were not pleased that Iraq has put before us the option of war. However, our pursuit is primarily based on protecting our interests and the security of our peoples by using all options.

Dear brothers, the grave situation and the deterioration of Arab security in particular, and international security in general, which resulted from this occupation, demand that we dedicate the agenda of this session of ours to the discussion of this problem and its repercussions in our region and to the study of the necessary measures to get the region out of its crisis.

May God guide us.

Peace be on you and God's mercy and blessings.

End 5 Sep Session

LD0509220190 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2145 GMT
5 Sep 90

[Text] Jeddah, 5 Sep (SPA)—Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] foreign ministers concluded their first working

session this evening. During the session, they discussed the development of the current situation in the Arabian Gulf region and also the repercussions of the Iraqi storming of Kuwait.

Tomorrow, God willing, the ministers will hold their second working session.

Resume Discussions

LD0609085590 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0830 GMT
6 Sep 90

[Text] Jeddah, 6 Sep—The GCC Ministerial Council, which consists of the foreign ministers of the GCC member countries, resumed its 36th session which began here yesterday.

The foreign ministers began their second closed session at 1000 this morning in the presence of GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Bisharah.

During their meeting, the foreign ministers will complete their discussion of the current conditions in the Arab Gulf and the consequences of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

Maghreb Ministers Discuss Gulf in Algiers

LD0209201290 Algiers Television Service in Arabic
1900 GMT 2 Sep 90

[Text] Algiers this afternoon hosted an emergency session of the foreign ministers of the Arab Maghreb Union (UMA). At the core of the deliberations of the Maghreb foreign ministers is the Gulf crisis: the consideration of ways to formulate a Maghreb stance and strengthen harmony so as to increase the possibility of bringing about a settlement.

Algeria, which initiated this meeting in its capacity as current chairman of the UMA, noted during the opening speech given by Sid Ahmed Ghazali the difficulty of the circumstances, and the need for a rational evaluation of the Maghreb stance within a framework of coordination and consultation. The foreign minister said that our stance as Maghrebans gives us a distinguished role in finding an Arab solution to the crisis. He then put forward the Algerian analysis of the various dimensions of the issue—as did, after him, the foreign ministers of the Union, who put forward their views and analyses.

This session was preceded by a preparatory closed session. More details on this subject will be forthcoming in our final bulletin.

Approve Crisis Working Paper

LD0309134290 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 3 Sep 90

[Text] All eyes are focused on Algeria to see the results of the emergency meeting being held there by the Arab Maghreb Union foreign ministers which was convened by Algeria in its capacity as the current chairman of the union. As is known, the meeting has one topic on its

agenda, namely, the Gulf crisis which continues to be the principal event occupying the attention of the world following the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

The Algiers meeting, as our foreign minister explained yesterday, comes at a very serious moment which requires an exchange of views to highlight and consolidate the Maghreb role in finding an Arab solution for the Gulf crisis. The foreign ministers of the Arab Maghreb are scheduled to be received today by President Chadli Bendjedid of Algeria, following the conclusion of their emergency meeting.

Our radio has learned that the Arab Maghreb Union foreign ministers have approved a working paper which provides for a comprehensive solution for the Gulf crisis while safeguarding international legitimacy. The views of the conferees have been identical regarding the causes and dimensions of the Gulf crisis and the ways of finding a peaceful solution based on Iraq's withdrawal from Kuwait, respect of international legitimacy, and withdrawal of foreign forces from the region.

We have learned that the working paper will be submitted to the leaders of the Arab Maghreb prior to its crystallization in the form of a final Maghreb visualization of a solution for the Gulf crisis. The Maghreb grouping represented by the Arab Maghreb Union possesses considerable elements which enable it to play an effective and important role and ensure that Maghreb mediation will succeed in finding a peaceful solution for the Gulf crisis.

Correspondent Mohamed Lamine Mouati comments: Several initiatives have been made and plans put forward for finding an Arab peaceful solution for the Gulf crisis. Hence it was only natural for the foreign ministers of the Arab Maghreb Union to meet to consider what could be done in these circumstances. In this respect, there are a number of points that could be mentioned and which could enable these Arab Maghreb countries to formulate stances toward the brothers:

- 1) The Arab groupings have been affected by the events in the Gulf. In fact, the Gulf Cooperation Council and the Arab Cooperation Council have both suffered as a result of the Gulf crisis, while the Arab Maghreb Union remained relatively unaffected.
- 2) The countries of the Arab Maghreb have significant mutual interests with the European countries in general and with France in particular, in addition to their geographical political position which enables them to intervene on the ground that the events in the Gulf were an Arab affair which affects the Arab Maghreb countries. Consequently neither France nor the other European countries can overlook the ties between the countries of the [Arab] east and countries of the Maghreb.

3) The diplomatic weight enjoyed by the countries of the Arab Maghreb, due to numerous considerations and their activities on the Arab and international arenas, makes one wait to see what these countries can do

particularly as the near past testifies to the success of their mediations in numerous conflicts.

However, one cannot but affirm strongly these countries' awareness of their principal enemy. The U.S. presence in the Arab region cannot make us overlook similar stances by that same Administration toward Palestine, nor the 1956 tripartite aggression, nor the great Algerian revolution, nor the aggression on the Jamahiriyyah.

How similar are the stances of today to those of the past. The stances have not changed and the same ambitions are still there, despite the change in time and place.

Reject Attempts To Starve Iraqis

LD0409113640 Algiers APS in English 1047 GMT
4 Sep 90

[Text] Algiers, 4 September (APS)—President Chadli Bendjedid, who is also chairman of the Arab Maghreb Union (UMA) declared yesterday when he received the UMA foreign ministers who gathered here in an extraordinary session since Sunday [2 September] that it is imperative for the Maghrebins to coordinate efforts and to enlarge consultations as a whole concerned by what is happening in the Gulf region.

Following these works the foreign ministers adopted a working document dealing with a definition of a Maghreb contribution in the seeking of a solution to the crisis which should be submitted to the Maghreb head of states.

In this document, the foreign ministers of the UMA who call for the respect of the international right and UN charter as well as the Arab League, condemn all the operations aiming at starving and weakening the Iraqi people as well as undermining their potentialities. This document encloses a certain number of principles and elements on which the UMA should base all its actions and initiatives. On his turn, the Algerian foreign minister, Sid Ahmed Ghazali, underlined that this meeting comes out with a global convergence around the fundamental principles on which any move should be based.

Ghazali, Bendjedid Comment

LD0209234590 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic
2200 GMT 2 Sep 90

[Text] Diplomatic efforts are continuing at more than one level in order to contain the [Gulf] crisis.

In Algiers, the foreign ministers of the five states belonging to the Arab Maghreb Union [UMA] met this evening in closed session to consider ways of finding a joint solution to the Gulf crisis. The meeting is being held as an initiative from Algeria in its capacity as chairman of the council of the UMA.

Today's session, which started at approximately 1700 hours [local time], lasted more than four hours. During the session, the foreign ministers of Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, Libya, and Mauritania exchanged views on the

crisis, and formed a working group to prepare a final communique, which is to be endorsed by the Maghreb foreign ministers, who will resume their deliberations in camera tomorrow morning. Saleha Abahri attended the meeting and conducted this interview with Sid Ahmed Ghazali, foreign minister of Algeria.

[Begin recording] [Abahri] Sid Ahmed Ghazali, why is this an emergency meeting?

[Ghazali] This meeting is, of course, an emergency one. It is our first meeting following the summit held in Algeria. However, it is not the first time we have met on this subject. From the start, since the beginning of the crisis, on 2 and 3 August, we had opportunities to consult and coordinate. In addition, there were bilateral telephone contacts between our leaders. But, we in Algeria and throughout the states of the Maghreb are now of the view that the time has come for us to meet once again in order to exchange our views, analyses, and thoughts, because we believe that, because of its position, stances, and commitment to what is happening in the Arab world, the UMA could help or contribute toward limiting this escalation in the Gulf. This escalation is threatening the Arab homeland. Thus, the subject of this meeting is what I have told you.

[Abahri] Sid Ahmed Ghazali, is there a joint initiative by the UMA to resolve the Gulf crisis?

[Ghazali] Before we speak of an initiative, it would be better to think of the form of contribution which could be made by the Maghreb Union. Contrary to what has been said about differences, there are no differences within the UMA concerning the principles, the view of the situation, and what we should do or avoid; what I mean is that the Maghreb Union is united. Before we speak of an initiative, we speak of the principles which could form the basis of the contribution of the member states toward finding a solution to the crisis within the context of Arab interpretations and efforts generally. [end recording]

[Announcer] It is thought in Algeria that the resort to foreign powers will not facilitate any political settlement, and that everything possible should be done to contain the Iraqi-Kuwaiti dispute and return it to its natural context, the Arab context. In this respect, it would seem necessary that there should be greater consultations within the Arab world in order to find an Arab solution to a conflict that has erupted between two sisterly countries. Foreign military intervention in the region will only complicate a situation which has reached a very high level of tension.

President Chadli Bendjedid had emphasized to the Arab emissaries whom he received during the past few days the official Algerian position, which is that priority should be given to an Arab solution to the Gulf conflict and the rejection of the foreign presence in the region. The same source added that consultations should be made at the Maghreb level in order to adopt a common position toward this subject and strengthen the

international inclination which has begun to lean toward a political solution of the crisis.

Observers noted that the countries of the Arab Maghreb had taken different positions towards this conflict. The meeting being held by the five UMA countries should bring these positions closer and strengthen Arab solidarity and coordination, a matter which increases the chances of an Arab solution of the crisis. This is the solution which has been urged by a majority of the international community.

Further Ghazali Comments

LD0409020290 *Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic*
2200 GMT 3 Sep 90

[Text] [Begin Ghazali recording] [Passage indistinct] ... a working paper to be submitted to the king and the heads of state. [Sentence indistinct].

Regarding the principles; we—all of us, the five states—agree on one yes and two nos: yes, for adhering to international legitimacy and the UN Charter and the charter of the Arab League and international laws. Regarding no, no to resorting to force as a means of solving any Arab-Arab dispute, and the second no is to starving the Iraqi people and to weakening it or undermining its capabilities, because to weaken it and to undermine its capabilities and security would lead, God forbid, to very great harm to the Arab world. [sentence indistinct]. Of course there are proposals over which the foreign ministers reached agreement, and we now await the reaction of our leaders before we think about a move on the basis of these principles. [end recording]

Arab League Council To Meet in Cairo 10 Sep

NC0409132990 *Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic*
1130 GMT 4 Sep 90

[Text] Official Arab sources in Cairo have confirmed that the Arab League Council will hold its emergency session in Cairo on Monday [10 September]. The sources said that the resignation of Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi has changed nothing so far. They explained that 13 Arab states have already approved the holding of the emergency session.

The sources added that the next session will announce the return of the Arab League's General Secretariat to Cairo in implementation of the Arab League Council's decision of last March. They explained that the Council's bylaws stipulate that the most senior assistant secretary general of the Arab League will assume the responsibilities of the secretary general until the issue of the secretary general's resignation and the election of a new secretary general is resolved at the earliest meeting of the League's Council or at a special meeting called by the Arab states.

Klibi Denies Being Pressured To Resign

LD0609113190 *Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic*
1100 GMT 6 Sep 90

[Text] Official sources at the Arab League General Secretariat have released the following statement: Chedli Klibi categorically rejects news that has been spread by some Egyptian newspapers saying that his resignation from the post of Arab League secretary-general was due to pressure put on him by the Tunisian Government. He stresses that the claims made by these newspapers are unfounded.

Chedli Klibi would like to take this opportunity to state that the Republic of Tunisia did not impose any stance on him throughout the 11 years he occupied the post of secretary-general of the Arab League and that at all levels of the state apparatus, Tunisia has respected the General Secretariat's independence. He would also like to stress that he did not resign from his post under pressure from any other state.

Arab League Said Experiencing Financial Crisis

NC0109133590 *Cairo MENA in English* 1230 GMT
1 Sep 90

[Text] Tunis, 1 sep (MENA)—The Arab League faces a severe financial crisis at present, as a number of the Arab countries have not paid their quotas in the League's budget. Due to the crisis, the League cannot afford to pay its personnel's salaries late this month, according to a reliable source in the League. Arab League sources said that an Arab country has stopped, since ten years ago, paying its quotas in the budget, adding that there are other Arab states, such as Mauritania and Sudan, which expressed on several occasions their inability to pay their quotas in the League's budget in the near future.

Iraq resumed this year paying its quota in the budget of a number of Arab organisations, such as the Arab League educational, cultural, and scientific organisation. An official source of the League said that it will not stop paying the [word indistinct] salaries as Egypt put the Arab League's asset, which is estimated at 50 million dollars, at the disposal of the secretary general as of September 1st. Egypt had frozen the league's 50-million dollar asset in the [word indistinct] banks after the Baghdad summit's resolution of 1979 of translocating the League premises from Cairo to Tunis.

Palestinian Affairs

Official Statement Attacks Egyptian 'Campaign'

LD0409015590 *Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic*
1702 GMT 3 Sep 90

[Text] Following its meetings recently in Tunis, the Palestinian leadership issued an official statement. Here is the text:

In this grave situation, which endangers our Arab nation and impels us all to adopt the highest degree of patriotic vigilance and pan-Arab responsibility, the official Egyptian media organs have embarked on a ferocious, prearranged, and unjust media campaign which has gone as far as inciting against the mujahidin Palestinian people and slandering them wherever they may be. They blamed them unjustly and oppressively for what happened and is still happening in the area and in the Gulf, starting with acts of aggression and participating in military operations, which are the figment of the imagination of those known newsmen who do not respect sanctities or conscience and who persist in the campaign of fabrications and lies and the twisting of facts and spreading their poisoned rumors, which are directed at the Palestinian people and the Palestinian leadership.

Having kept silent for a long time about this frenzied and unjust campaign, which is full of lies and deliberate and premeditated misrepresentations, out of its desire to maintain the unity of Arab ranks and, stemming from its spirit of pan-Arab responsibility to find an Arab way out of the current grave situation which is shaking the entity of our Arab nation and which threatens its existence and its destiny, the PLO cannot stand much longer before this criminal campaign which harmoniously accompanies—regrettably—the poisons and lies spread by the Israeli media organs and some foreign media organs, and which has begun to reflect seriously on the security, existence, and fate of the entire Palestinian people, particularly when they know that the well-known Egyptian writers do not speak their mind or belief but speak on the basis of official Egyptian decisions.

Therefore, the PLO places the full responsibility for this unjust campaign on Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak. It sees its continuation as a persistence by the official Egyptian authorities at their highest level in insulting our mujahidin Palestinian people, whether in our occupied Palestinian soil or in exile and diaspora, for the purpose of slandering them and inciting against them and transgressing against their sanctities and sacred things, and in order to harm the militant fraternal relations which link them with the generous and valiant Egyptian people. This also reflects badly on the history of the joint struggle and the unified jihad, and it is an encroachment on the blood of the martyrs and the torrent of Palestinian, Egyptian, and Arab blood which has not ceased for one moment in defense of the first of the two Qiblahs and third greatest holy mosque where the Prophet Muhammad, may the blessings and peace of God be upon him, and the cradle of the messiah, may peace be upon him, are [Jerusalem].

While we appeal to the fraternal Egyptian people and all their factions, leaderships, parties, and mujahidin to stand up to this conspiracy, whose intentions and aims are exposed, we believe that one of its basic aims at the same time is to distort the struggle of their many sacrifices, their noble stands toward the Palestinian issue, which to all the sons of the mujahidin Egyptian people is their heart, their conscience, their belief and faith.

The Egyptian people do not and will not approve of this hostile, false, and unjust campaign.

Commentary Criticizes Egyptian Press

LD0609051190 *Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic*
1702 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] What is happening in Egypt—or, to be precise, since the signing of the Camp David agreements? Is it a betrayal of the Arab history of Egypt, or a long-drawn apology offered to Zionism and America by a misguided few who insist on humiliating the blood of the Egyptian martyrs, which was spilled for the most sacred national and pan-Arab issues?

Suspect pens in the Cairo press are slandering the people of Palestine. They are discrediting their struggle and sacrifices. They try to undermine the legitimate and historic leadership of the Palestinian people. This does not stem from a vacuum, chance, or a transient attitude.

Since the signing of the Camp David agreements, the Egyptian authorities have taken a number of high-handed measures affecting the sons of the Palestinian people. Under these measures, they abolished all the decisions issued during the time of the immortal leader Jamal 'Abd al-Nasir. They believed the traces of Israeli aggression had disappeared from the Arab land of Egypt, where a disengagement separating Egypt from the traces of that aggression and any other Arab country took place.

Since then, the policy of discrimination and harassment of Palestinians became the rule that governed the various official departments in Egypt in their dealing with the Palestinian citizen, whether a resident from 1948 or 1967. [passage omitted]

We are witnessing the emergence of a new wave of the rancorous campaign which the Cairo press and its suspect pens have been accustomed to spreading against our Palestinian people in readiness for hatching a new conspiracy against their just and honorable struggle along the road of freedom for their independent state. [passage omitted]

Why do the Egyptian authorities, without giving any legal or convincing reasons, refuse to give those Palestinians free passage and allow them to exercise their right to return to the homeland—occupied Palestine? Is this not a serious precedent, and of great significance? Does this not agree with the Zionist intransigence—depriving the Palestinian citizen of his right to return to the soil of his homeland? Is it not this right for which Arab Egypt has fought three wars, and for which it gave thousands of martyrs and wounded of its blessed sons and sacrificed everything dear and precious?

The removal of the traces of aggression. Does it not mean the return to the Palestinian refugee who suffered from the 1967 aggression in much the same way as the Egyptian who suffered equally and became a refugee and

who later returned to his homeland in Sinai? The questions are so many. They must have been in the minds of the Egyptians, the Arabs, and the Palestinians.

The evil pens in the official papers of Egypt would have done themselves proud if they discussed them objectively, honestly, and truly, instead of trying to cover the answers by insulting the Palestinian people who have endured and given so much.

The Palestinian people will not fight back and will not match their abuse with abuse. To do so is the method of one who cannot sell his merchandise. The Palestinian people will carry the crown of thorns, to which these pens have been boasting they have added barbed wire. All their actions against our Palestinian people are evidence of a partnership between them and the sons of Zion, a partnership included in the secret supplements of the detested Camp David agreements, a partnership aimed first of all against the struggle of the Palestinian people and their just cause.

The yellow press after today will not dare say again that the Camp David agreements are destined for history or overtaken by time. Official Egyptian actions against the people of Palestine continue in the direction of partnership with the sons of Zion. This means that this misguided few who are leading Egypt away from its history, Arabism, and Islam are moving toward a collision with the inevitability of history and the throbs of Arabism in the noble Egyptian street.

The Palestinians can do nothing except be more patient and expose the facts. This is a more powerful weapon, because it is the weapon of truth in facing the futile upstart, and tomorrow we will have more truth.

PFLP's Habash Interviewed on Gulf Crisis

PM0609092490 Paris LE MONDE in French
5 Sep 90 p 6

[Francoise Chipaux dispatch: "Georges Habash Calls on 'Arab Liberation Movements To Strike Western Interests']

[Text] Baghdad— One of the practical consequences of the upheavals caused by the Gulf crisis in the Palestinian movement is the return to Baghdad for the first time in 11 years of Georges Habash, general secretary of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP).

Received by President Saddam Husayn and by First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan, the leader of the PLO hardliners, who has lived in Damascus since the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in 1982, explained that visit by his desire to express his solidarity with Iraq "at a time when foreign forces are invading the Arabian peninsula and when George Bush is threatening Iraq, its people, its army, and its leaders." "As the PFLP, we can only say to the Iraqi people and army that we stand in the same trench as their leaders to defend that country's freedom and the Arab nation's pride," he told us on Monday, 3 September.

"I must tell you," he added, "that I found President Saddam Husayn to be totally confident in the ability of his people and the Arab masses to succeed. The president knows exactly what he wants and he is determined to have it and has no doubt about his victory. I hope that the so-called Gulf crisis will be solved without a war, but, at the same time, I clearly feel that if the U.S. Administration continues to make its threats, the president's answer will be 'Welcome battle!'" he said, referring to the patriotic song which the Egyptians used during the Suez crisis in 1956.

Condemning what he called "the comedy of the Cairo Arab summit organized by the United States, which found an obedient protagonist in the wretched Hosni Mubarak (the Egyptian president—LE MONDE editor's note)," Mr. Habash said: "The United States must understand the real feeling of Arab public opinion."

The American View—"A Complete Sham"

Questioned on the PLO leader's initiative to solve the crisis, Mr. Habash replied: "It is based on that of the Iraqi president," who proposed a comprehensive solution to all the Middle East problems, including the Palestinian and Lebanese questions.

"The U.S. Administration is still repeating that it intervened to ensure respect for legitimacy and international law. President Saddam Husayn's initiative was taken to ask the world what became of that legitimacy when Israel occupied the Arab territories and Lebanon, and annexed the Golan Heights? Where is that legitimacy when the United States vetoes the Palestinian people's legitimate rights? By that initiative, President Saddam Husayn showed the world that the American view of international law is a complete sham. Revolutionary Arab legitimacy must replace the U.S. view of legality."

Does that mean that the PFLP and other Palestinian organizations will resume their military operations against Israel, the United States, and Western interests? "The military operations against the enemy," Mr. Habash simply said, "must continue, particularly now." In this connection, the PFLP leader called on "all Arab liberation movements to strike U.S. and Western interests."

This call takes on special significance in Baghdad where the head of Iraqi diplomacy recently did not rule out the use of terrorism, linking its use "to the Western world's attitude. If it declares war on us, our obligations toward it cease," he said in an interview to LE FIGARO.

Iraq is now harboring Abu Nidal [Sabri al-Banna], the Palestinian terrorist sentenced to death by the PLO. That country also shelters the Palestine Liberation Front led by Abu-al-'Abbas [Muhammad 'Abbas], who, with the help of Iraq and Libya, organized the abortive landing on Israeli beaches last May.

Damascus' Disavowal

Does this visit to Baghdad by Mr. Habash which, although the PFLP leader has refrained from any open criticism of Damascus, is bound to look like a disavowal of the Syrian attitude, herald the PFLP's departure from the Syrian capital? "I hope to reopen our office here (the one which was closed following Syrian-Iraqi disagreements in the eighties—LE MONDE editor's note), but our general staff is still in Damascus and I hope to return there very soon," Mr. Habash said, specifying that he is only in Baghdad "for a few days and not a few weeks."

In reply to a question on Syria's decision to send an armed contingent to Saudi Arabia, the PFLP leader merely said that "Syria is an Arab country and has the right to its own viewpoint. That is a matter for Syrian domestic policy. The PFLP is concerned with maintaining good relations with Syria and with having the best possible relations with Syria and Iraq, despite their differences," Mr. Habash added. However, it remains to be seen what attitude Damascus will take in this connection.

With this return by the PFLP general secretary, the large presence of Mr. 'Arafat's Fatah, which has transferred some of its military offices from Sanaa to Baghdad, where several thousand young Palestinians are training in camps, and the offers also made to dissident Ahmad Jibril of the PFLP-General Command, Baghdad is on the way to becoming the main base for Palestinian movements, and that could sooner or later lead to a complete change in the PLO's peace strategy.

Habash Meets Saddam 2 Sep; Base Shift Denied

JN0309053290 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English
3 Sep 90 p 1

[Report by JORDAN TIMES Staff Reporter, Mariam M. Shahin]

[Text] Amman—Palestinian leader George Habash was received by Iraqi President Saddam Husayn in Baghdad Sunday [2 September] but Habash's first visit to the Iraqi capital in 14 years does not signal any transfer of his base from Damascus, informed sources here said.

Habash, 64, leader of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), has been outside Syria since a few days before the Aug. 2 Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, and he passed through Amman Friday [31 August] on his way to the Iraqi capital, said the sources, insisting on anonymity.

"There are no plans at this point in time for any transfer of the PFLP base to Baghdad," said one of the sources, a member of the Palestine National Council (PNC). "Most of the members of the PFLP Central Committee are in Syria, and even if Habash wanted to switch his headquarters to Baghdad it cannot be an overnight process since it will involve a lot of preparations," the source

said when contacted by the JORDAN TIMES to verify agency reports that Habash had in fact "transferred" his base to the Iraqi capital.

Radio Baghdad reported the meeting between Saddam and Habash, who last visited Baghdad in 1976 during the heyday of the Arab Steadfastness and Confrontation Front, which grouped Iraq, Syria, Algeria, Libya, South Yemen and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

The PFLP is the second largest faction in the PLO after Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's Fatah and any switch in its relations with Iraq and Syria—archfoes for over a decade—would have a major impact on the overall Palestinian scene, particularly after the Iraqi takeover of Kuwait and Syria's contribution to an Arab force deployed in Saudi Arabia to counter the Iraqi presence in Kuwait.

According to 'Azmi al-Khawaja, an Amman-based member of the PFLP politburo, Habash was seeking to open a PFLP office in the Iraqi capital. "Talks on this issue have been under way for some time, and I would not attach any other significance to (Habash's) current visit to Baghdad," al-Khawaja, who heads the Amman wing of the PFLP, told the JORDAN TIMES Sunday.

Habash, along with fellow leftist leader Nayif Hawatimah, head of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), reluctantly went along with 'Arafat's 1988 peace initiative, in which the PLO leader recognised the state of Israel, thus opting for a two-state solution, and renounced terrorism.

At least two other PLO factions are currently based in Baghdad. They are the Arab Liberation Front headed by 'Abd-al-Rahim Ahmad and the Palestine Liberation Front led by Muhammad 'Abbas (Abu-al-'Abbas). Both Ahmad and Abu-al-'Abbas are members of the executive committee of the PLO, which also maintains a representative office in addition to the embassy of the State of Palestine.

Habash Said Undecided

NC0309160890 Paris AFP in English 1511 GMT
3 Sep 90

[Text] Baghdad, Sept 3 (AFP)—The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), which is based in Damascus, may open branches in Baghdad, Amman and Tunis, reliable Palestinian sources said here Monday [3 September].

The sources said however that PFLP leader George Habash had not yet decided whether to transfer the group's offices from Damascus, a long-standing regional rival of Baghdad.

The group has denied radio reports in the region that its offices were being transferred to the Iraqi capital, where Mr. Habash met Sunday with President Saddam Husayn, because of dissatisfaction with Syria's position on the Gulf crisis.

But a Palestinian source added: "this visit shows clear and direct support for Iraq against the U.S. presence in the region and signals differences between the PFLP position and that of Syria."

The PFLP is a main component of the Palestine Liberation Organisation but has in the past advocated a more radical line than the mainstream Fatah group of PLO chief Yasir 'Arafat.

Mr. Habash told a Danish newspaper last week that he condemned Iraq's August 2 invasion of Kuwait, but said Iraq had been forced to enter the emirate because "the Gulf countries were trying to smother it."

The Iraqi invasion followed bitter accusations in Baghdad that Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates were undermining the Iraqi economy by deliberately producing excessive amounts of oil and driving down world prices.

Washington has deployed upwards of 60,000 ground and air troops in Saudi Arabia to shore up the kingdom's defences against what it says could be an attack by Iraqi units in Kuwait.

Mr. Habash said he had been "deeply disappointed" by the attitude of Syria, which has also sent troops to Saudi Arabia, along with Egypt and Morocco.

Fatah Discusses Qatari Expulsions of Palestinians

*JN0409135590 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1200 GMT 4 Sep 90*

[Randah Habib dispatch from Amman]

[Text] An Iraqi source has said that Iraq decided to prevent persons of all nationalities who left Iraq and Kuwait after 23 August from returning to these two countries. The source did not give a reason for this measure.

On another subject, al-Tayyib 'Abd-al-Rahim, ambassador of the State of Palestine to Jordan, has told our radio that Qatar expelled 'Abd-al-Shafi Mahmud Siyam, the minister plenipotentiary at the Palestinian Embassy in Qatar, without giving reasons for the action. 'Abd-al-Rahim said that the Qatari Foreign Ministry had sent a note to Siyam dated 3 September giving him only three days to leave the country. 'Abd-al-Rahim noted that Qatar last week expelled three Palestinian officials. They are Salih al-Barghuthi, deputy chairman of the Palestine National Fund; Salim 'Abd-al-'Al al-Qazaq, the cultural attache at the embassy; and Midhat Ruxi al-'Umari, an embassy employee.

'Abd-al-Rahim noted that the Fatah Revolutionary Council discussed at length these arbitrary measures against Palestinians in the Gulf states and considered them to be unjustified, reflecting ill intentions that the PLO cannot accept or be silent about. 'Abd-al-Rahim emphasized that the PLO will take the necessary measures to preserve and protect the Palestinian people's interests.

UNLI Denounces U.S. 'Invasion' of Arab Lands

*JN3108151690 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0655 GMT
31 Aug 90*

[Text] Amman, 31 Aug (INA)—The Palestinian Unified National Leadership of the Intifadah [UNLI] has warned against the dangers of the U.S. occupation of Arab territories and Muslim sacred places, and the military preparations for aggression against fraternal Iraq.

In a call entitled the Call of Victory issued in Palestine, the UNLI said the great dangers that would result from U.S. military aggression, for which preparations are under way now, will not be limited to the Middle East alone. It also said these dangers necessitate the massing of all resources to stop the buildup in the Gulf, and the withdrawal of U.S. and other troops commanded by the United States from the region.

The call urged the Arab nation's masses and its enlightened religious and nationalist movements, which oppose the U.S. desecration of the sacred lands, to unite in a strong cohesive front to face and defeat the expected U.S. aggression and preserve Arab dignity.

The call stressed the Palestinian people's determination to escalate the valiant intifadah that has been going on for 33 months until victory is achieved and until the Zionist occupation is defeated.

The UNLI has decided to consider every day in September a day of national militant activities against the Zionist occupation and the U.S. invasion of the sacred lands. Flags will be hoisted, slogans will be painted on walls, and demonstrations will be staged to denounce the invasion and occupation. The UNLI has also decided to consider all Fridays days of distinguished protest against the Zionist occupation and its tools of oppression.

Qaddumi Assails Statement by UK's Douglas Hurd

*NC0509175890 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1600 GMT 5 Sep 90*

[Text] In an exclusive statement to the Palestinian news agency, WAFA, brother Abu-al-Lutf, (Faruq Qaddumi), chairman of the PLO political department, in reaction to British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd's statement, has said that this arrogant tone used by British officials from the Conservative Party reminds us of the colonialist policy that Britain used to pursue toward the colonized peoples. Britain is still pursuing this policy even after its departure from the region.

He said that Britain is now trying to deceive the world into believing that it is playing a positive role in solving existing crises. The glaring fact, he said, is that Britain played a conspiratorial role in the Palestinian issue. Britain's role within the EC was negative, a role replete with intrigues and suspicious attempts to obstruct sincere European efforts to boost the peace process. Britain is trying to relegate the European role to a place within the context of U.S. policy that seeks to launch an

aggressive war against the Arab region's peoples to return them to the era of colonialism and subservience.

PLO's Al-Yahya on Gulf Crisis, U.S. Goals

JN0509083490 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
5 Sep 90 pp 1, 14

[Report by Nabil 'Amr]

[Text] Brigadier General 'Abd-al-Razzaq al-Yahya, PLO Executive Committee member and former commander in chief of the Palestinian Liberation Army, has affirmed that although Israel is pretending to be neutral, the Israeli front is the most dangerous military front created by the United States in the Gulf crisis against the Arab nation. Israel has a basic role that will be defined by future developments in the crisis, in harmony with its status as a U.S. strategic ally.

In an exclusive statement to AL-DUSTUR, he said that the Americans have not come panting to our region with all this military buildup to protect certain regimes, but to protect their interests. They view our region merely as oil, wealth, markets, and strategic passageways. The Americans and their allies do not respect the Arab individual. They want this nation to be weak so that they can dominate its wealth and its distinguished strategic location. Otherwise, there would have been no Israel, no U.S.-Israeli strategic agreement, no procrastination in solving the Palestine question, and no continued backwardness and fragmentation in our Arab homeland.

He said that if we follow the positions of countries, we will find that the U.S. position is the toughest of all the European positions, except Britain. This is part of the U.S.-European competition over the Arab oil region. The United States is trying to compete with the Europe of 1992 and Japan in order to impose its terms on the region, within the framework of the economic war which has been raging among these countries for some time, especially since Europe and Japan are importing most of their oil from the Arab region.

Regarding the possibility of a diplomatic solution to the Gulf crisis, al-Yahya said that the diplomatic solution is possible, and that under the most difficult circumstances a logical solution can be reached through active and flexible diplomacy, and that it is unwise to be intransigent and to adhere to certain positions. He added that logic should always be pursued and that denunciation, threats, and polemics will further complicate, rather than solve the problem.

He said that in light of this fact, the Palestinian trend was clarified from the beginning so that the Arabs would not be divided and that the structure of the Arab order would not be disrupted. The saying goes: "Nothing comes late." If there are good intentions and the higher Arab interests are sought first, I believe that the diplomatic solution will be the best, but only if it falls within the Arab framework and is based on brotherly understanding,

noninterference in Arab affairs by foreigners, and the unconditional withdrawal of foreign forces.

Al-Yahya also said that the huge foreign military buildup, the types of weapons dispatched, and the measures taken affirm that war will break out. The United States has actually placed itself in a state of undeclared war against Iraq. Therefore, the current siege can be considered a war siege in the full sense of the word. From the beginning, the U.S. reaction was violent and swift, although it completely violated the principles of international law and of the UN Charter.

Al-Yahya said that the United States' actions in the region have aimed at closing the door to diplomatic solutions ever since it placed its military bases, forces, and various weapons on full alert. Hence, it has created an atmosphere of war in the region. Consequently, it has become a natural right for Iraq to take various measures including military ones in self-defense.

He added that the massive foreign military buildup in the Arabian Gulf, along with all measures, preparations, and steps, have placed the entire region on the brink of an abyss which portends a devastating explosion at any moment.

Brig. Gen. al-Yahya cast doubt on the legitimacy of the U.S. naval blockade on Iraq. He said: A peaceful naval blockade is a long procedure which requires elaborate legal research. In the history of naval blockades, we find that international law stood idle before such blockades, and in many cases adopted an opposite stand to them, especially with regard to seizing, intercepting, or searching other countries' ships, and with regard to the kind of material or banned cargo. International law, in recent times, disregarded such blockades, because a naval blockade is essentially an act of war. Under a peaceful naval blockade it is impermissible for the country or countries imposing the blockade to take measures against other countries' ships. This is only permissible under a war blockade.

He added: Thus, during the Cuba siege in 1962, the United States sought the cover of a limited international legitimacy. It resorted to the Organization of American States, which adopted a resolution on 23 October 1962 in support of the U.S. measures. History is repeating itself. The United States resorted to the UN Security Council resolution in an attempt to secure international legitimacy for its naval blockade on Iraq and its actions against other countries' ships. I do not think that this resolution secures any legal legitimacy for the U.S. measures since it is unprecedented, vague, and equivocal. Thus, all U.S. practices do not enjoy any legality.

Regarding his view of the Soviet position on what is taking place in the Arabian Gulf, Brig. Gen. al-Yahya said: I do not want to put the Soviet position on trial. We still consider the Soviet Union a friendly state. However, I firmly believe that the Soviet Union could have played an advanced, qualitative role in this crisis. It could have helped from the start in stopping the U.S. escalation,

breach of international law, and tampering with UN institutions. I fear that as a result of the Soviet position, matters will develop into a new form of conflict between North and South where the Soviet Union will side with Western states and the United States in the Northern camp, while we the Arabs are in the Southern camp, now that the East-West conflict is frozen.

'Arafat, Spanish Foreign Minister Discuss Crisis

NC0509181190 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1600 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] President of the State of Palestine, brother Abu-'Ammar, [Yasir 'Arafat], received in his residence in Algiers Spanish Foreign Minister Fernandez-Ordenez. During the meeting, they discussed developments in the Gulf crisis and the possibilities of finding an Arab political solution. Also attending the meeting were brothers Abu-Iyad [Salah Khalaf] and Hakam Bal'awi, Fatah central committee members; and Mudhir al-Dajani, Palestinian ambassador to Algeria.

PNC Speaker Returns From Iran, Comments on Talks

JN0109143090 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
1 Sep 90 p 22

[Report by Tal'at Shana'ah]

[Text] His Eminence Shaykh 'Abd-al-Hamid al-Sa'ih, speaker of the Palestine National Council [PNC], has said that Iranian and Palestinian views are in agreement on the need to bring about the withdrawal of foreign forces from the Arabian Peninsula.

Following his return from Iran along with the Palestinian delegation, al-Sa'ih added that Iranian officials are thinking of establishing diplomatic relations with Iraq and that many Iranian brothers wish to visit the holy shrines in Iraq.

Shaykh al-Sa'ih pointed out that there is consensus on the importance of Islamic relations between Iran and the Arab world in general, and Palestine in particular, as well as consensus on the need to save and liberate Palestine from the Zionist occupation and vacate the Arabian Peninsula of foreign forces.

The Palestinian and Iranian sides stressed that what took place between Iraq and Kuwait is an Arab issue that must be resolved within an Arab framework and that President Saddam Husayn's initiative has accomplished what the brothers in Iran wanted, particularly with regard to the implementation of the Algiers agreement.

Shaykh al-Sa'ih added that the Palestinian delegation felt that hostility between Iraq and Iran had greatly diminished if not disappeared.

The Palestinian delegation visited Tehran and met with Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Besharati, Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Majlis Karrubi, and other decision makers in Iran.

The Palestinian delegation led by Shaykh al-Sa'ih comprised Muhammad Milhim, 'Abbas Zaki, Muhammad Khadir, and the Palestinian ambassador in Iran.

Diplomatic Representative in Ankara Interviewed

NC0509212190 Istanbul CUMHURIYET in Turkish
31 Aug 90 p 13

[Report on "exclusive" interview with Fuat Yasin, representative of the State of Palestine in Turkey, by CUMHURIYET reporter Yasemin Congar in Ankara; date not given]

[Text] Ankara—[Congar] How do you assess Turkey's approach and activity on the Gulf crisis?

[Yasin] Through their effective approach, the Turkish Government and people can make an energetic and important contribution toward the settlement of the Middle East problem. Turkey is an important country because of its geographical, demographic, and political position. It can contribute significantly to a peaceful settlement of the problem. For example, it can force the United States to comply with the norms of international law and sit at the negotiating table. We expect our friends and brothers in Turkey to make an effort in that regard if they can.

[Congar] How would the State of Palestine react to a decision by Turkey to send troops to the Gulf region?

[Yasin] We are opposed to any form of foreign intervention. We are opposed to a U.S. intervention and to the presence of U.S. military forces in the region. The intervention thus far is not in the Arab's interests. It is in the United States' interests and aimed at guarding the oil in the region. Although foreign troops have been sent to the region at the invitation of a number of Arab countries, these troops are not there to defend Arab interests. It is up to the Turkish Government to decide if Turkey should send troops to the region. I hope that when the fraternal Turkish Government considers a decision about it, it will do so in the light of the interests of the Turkish people. Nevertheless, we are opposed to any form of military action that would lead to war.

[Congar] How does the State of Palestine think the problem can be solved?

[Yasin] We made our position very clear during the Arab summit and the meeting held by the Arab foreign ministers. We still believe that an inter-Arab solution can be found. There must not be a war, because a war may give Israel an opportunity to expand toward Jordan in the east and toward Lebanon and Syria in the north.

[Congar] Has Turkey's active approach as a non-Arab country created a reaction in the State of Palestine and the other Arab countries?

[Yasin] The Palestinians understand Turkey's position. I believe that many of the other Arab countries also understand Turkey's position. Turkey is a member of the Islamic Conference Organization as well. In view of this,

there are many things it can do. That Turkey supports the United States in the Gulf crisis has not been officially confirmed thus far. If Turkey supports the Americans in the Gulf crisis, then the situation will be very different. We would then be forced to consider the matter in a very different way.

[Congar] Turkey planned to upgrade its diplomatic relations with Israel. Putting the Gulf crisis aside, what is your approach to this matter?

[Yasin] The upgrading of relations between Turkey and Israel will not harm our relations with Turkey. Of course, it is up to the Turkish Government to decide what to do. However, it is not the right time to make such an initiative. This is because the outcome of the Gulf crisis is unpredictable and the uprising in the occupied lands has been continuing for nearly three years now. We do not interfere in the internal affairs of our friends. Nevertheless, the friendly Turkish Government must think carefully before it takes a new step in its relations with

Israel. It must properly assess the meaning of such a step for the interests of Turkey and the Turkish people.

[Congar] Another matter is the level of your representation....

[Yasin] We are not in a hurry in that regard. We maintain a realistic position. We are convinced that the Turkish Government will adopt a decision to promote this level at a time which will be convenient both for Turkey and for us.

[Congar] How do you assess the view that the Kurdish element in the region is being used by a number of foreign forces in the Gulf crisis?

[Yasin] The United States wishes to play all the cards it holds in this problem. The question is whether the Kurdish people want to be a trump card held by the United States.... The most appropriate solution for the Kurdish problem will be found in the future. This problem can be resolved through a more understanding and realistic approach.

Algeria

Secret Police Chief Replaced; No Reason Given

LD0609033890 Paris International Service
in French 1830 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] Resignation in Algiers of the chief of the secret service. The reasons behind the departure of General Betchin have not been specified. He has been replaced by Colonel Tawfik, who has until now been Army security chief. Reliable sources in Algiers say the authorities intend to completely abolish the political police.

Egypt

Ghali Returns From Morocco, Makes Statement

NC0609094090 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2252 GMT
5 Sep 90

[Text] Cairo, 5 Sep (MENA)—Dr. Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, returned to Cairo this evening after a two-day visit to the Moroccan Kingdom during which he met with Moroccan King Hassan II and gave him a message from President Hosni Mubarak on the current situation in the Gulf.

In an arrival statement, Dr. Butrus Ghali said that the message he gave to King Hassan II from President Mubarak dealt with the consultations and coordination between Egypt and Morocco on the Gulf issue. He said he and the Moroccan king also discussed the various dimensions of this issue.

Dr. Butrus Ghali said that he also held contacts with Moroccan Prime Minister Dr. Azzedine Laraki; Ahmed Cherkaoui, secretary of state for foreign affairs; Ahmed Osman, president of the Chamber of Representatives; and some party leaders.

Dr. Ghali said that his mission in Morocco was not confined to the government, but also included the Moroccan parties.

Dr. Ghali said that in light of these talks, it can be said that there is complete agreement between the two countries on the importance of implementing the UN Security Council resolutions that call on Iraq to withdraw from the Kuwaiti territories. This is in order to contain the crisis and to settle it peacefully.

Dr. Ghali indicated that His Majesty King Hassan gave him a message in reply to President Mubarak's message. He said that he will present a report on his mission to President Mubarak tomorrow morning.

Regarding the U.S.-Soviet summit which is scheduled to convene in Helsinki on Sunday [9 September], Dr. Ghali said a complete agreement between the two superpowers will be in the interests of international peace. If we want a settlement to the international and regional conflicts,

an agreement must be achieved with regard to the international issues in general and to the Gulf crisis in particular.

Says Saddam Could Compromise

PM3108115090 Paris LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS
in French 29 Aug 90 p 8

[Interview with Minister of State Butrus Ghali by Dominique Lagarde; place and date not given]

[Text] [Lagarde] Do you believe, as [French President] Francois Mitterrand does, that we are now "moving toward war" or do negotiations still have a chance?

[Ghali] We are indeed "moving toward war," but we still hope to find a peaceful solution to this conflict. Even if the chances are minimal, we must try.

[Lagarde] Who could perhaps act to facilitate a negotiated settlement? The United Nations or, rather, the Arabs, and the Arabs alone, as some people say?

[Ghali] We are very pragmatic. We support Perez de Cuellar's mediation. If tomorrow an Arab chief of state or group of Arab chiefs of state decide to mediate, we will support that too. Having said that, the diplomatic process must be based on the resolutions adopted by the Security Council.

[Lagarde] According to these resolutions, any diplomatic solution depends on the Iraqi troops' withdrawal from Kuwait...

[Ghali] This is what we are demanding. Even if it entails discussing the details of this withdrawal or various other aspects of the issue. But such negotiations must definitely be based on the troops' withdrawal.

[Lagarde] As well as a return to the previous status quo and therefore the amir's return to power?

[Ghali] According to the UN resolutions, there must be a return to the previous status quo. However, there could be further resolutions. Negotiation is a process that has a dynamic of its own. If negotiations begin, this will permit a de-escalation which could encourage the international community to take measures likely to facilitate the continuation of the process.

[Lagarde] Is it possible to envisage—as Yasir 'Arafat suggested—a modification of Kuwait's status resulting in its semi-autonomy?

[Ghali] This is incompatible with the Security Council's resolutions and with those adopted by the Arab summit in Cairo. I do not consider it a reasonable approach. It would reward aggression. Kuwait is a member state of the international community. You cannot eliminate a state overnight. Otherwise, what would happen to the entire international system?

[Lagarde] Is it possible to envisage Saddam Husayn's retreating?

[Ghali] He is very isolated. He has made an even greater concession to Iran. If he realizes that his country's future and the future of peace in the region are at stake, he could perhaps decide to accept a compromise. It is up to diplomacy to find formulas that will enable everyone to save face.

[Lagarde] In your opinion, when he invaded Kuwait did he expect such a response from the international community?

[Ghali] He did not take account of what we have become in the post-cold war era. There is an entirely new situation. The Arab nations and the Third World nations want the solution to occur within the UN framework, because for us the United Nations is an instrument that can enable us to counter our marginalization and make our voice heard. For the past 40 years it was the cold war that enabled the Third World states to perform some kind of role on the international stage. The Soviet Union would never have built the dam in Egypt had it not been for the cold war. It has ended overnight, and this has caused our marginalization. So we want a peaceful solution to be found through the United Nations.

[Lagarde] By assuming the leadership of the anti-Iraqi group within the Arab camp, has Egypt not cut itself off somewhat from the Arab public?

[Ghali] I believe that the Arab public as a whole condemns the Iraqi aggression against Kuwait. The demonstrations that took place were basically Palestinian demonstrations. The peace process having failed, they felt drawn toward radical or extreme solutions, such as those now being encouraged by the Iraqi Government.

[Lagarde] Does the fact that Egypt and other countries have approved the sending of foreign, and especially Western, troops to the Gulf not further exacerbate the splits within the Arab world?

[Ghali] We received the same criticisms when we signed a peace treaty with Israel. It did not prevent us from signing that treaty.

[Lagarde] But it did nevertheless cut you off from the Arab world...

[Ghali] But the Arab world later returned to Egypt.

[Lagarde] It is said that one of Saddam Husayn's options could be to change the nature of the situation by forcing Israel to become involved in the conflict. How would Egypt respond in the event of an Iraqi-Israeli conflict.

[Ghali] These are hypotheses. At present Israel is not involved.

Calls Iraqi Position 'Erratic'

NC0209093690 Paris AFP in English 0857 GMT
2 Sep 90

[Text] Paris, Sept 2 (AFP)—In an interview published Sunday [2 September], Egypt's deputy foreign minister, Butrus Ghali, described Iraq's position as erratic.

"They're constantly going from hot to cold," he told the JOURNAL DU DIMANCHE newspaper. "There are contradictions, a very inconsequential attitude."

He also decried the units sent to Saudi Arabia by Egypt, Morocco and Syria as symbolic. "We've never pretended that it had more than a symbolic value," he said. "The American presence bothers (Iraqi president Saddam Husayn) on a military level, the presence of Egyptian and Moroccan troops on a psychological and diplomatic level."

Asked about Mr. Husayn's portrayal of the crisis as the struggle between poor and rich Arab countries, he replied, "But Iraq is rich. It has not only oil, but water, while the other Gulf countries have oil but no water. Iraq is very rich. And in 1973, when oil reached 40 dollars a barrel, Iraq gave nothing."

He said the only solution to the crisis was the complete withdrawal of Iraq from Kuwait. "Rewarding aggression is out of the question," he said.

"Under the pressure of international public opinion, under pressure of the blockade, of a possible escalation, will Iraq take into the account all these dangers? If it does, there is a chance we can start negotiations. We are ready and pragmatic. The main thing is to avoid military confrontation."

Military Strategist Interviewed on Gulf Crisis

PM0609080490 Paris LE FIGARO in French
31 Aug 90 p 5

[Interview with retired General Ahmad 'Abd-al-Halim by Rene Favret in Cairo—date not given]

[Text] Cairo—General Ahmad 'Abd-al-Halim, the most eminent strategic analyst in Egypt, did not mince his words. Now retired, he works at the Cairo Middle East National Studies Center. He is close to President Mubarak and unofficially represents Egyptian military thinking.

Like the majority of the Cairo establishment, this general officer, armed with Egyptian and U.S. university diplomas, believes that war is imminent. "I see no other solution but war," he said. "Even if Saddam were to withdraw from Kuwait, the threat would remain, and it is unacceptable."

According to the Egyptian analyst, following the meeting between Perez de Cuellar and Tariq 'Aziz, there is only one political step to be taken—to secure an air blockade of Iraq through another Security Council resolution. "Then," he said, "war is only a matter of hours away. We military people count in hours up to 168 hours, in other words, one week. And I have good reason to think that D day will come during the first half of September. First, because, from the political viewpoint, this situation cannot continue indefinitely. But also, in the military sphere, because it is unthinkable to leave such a force in place for months."

Is this a disaster scenario? There is only one slightly reassuring note in Gen. 'Abd-al-Halim's analysis—he does not believe there will be a general conflict, involving several countries in the region. "Saudi Arabia is now no longer threatened. The United States has moved in strategic forces—an adequate force. We are participating in that effort. Saddam now only controls the strategic area in which his men are actually deployed."

Iraq Is Paralyzed

If pushed into a corner, will Iraq not be tempted to strike at the Saudi oil wells or to plunge other countries in the region—including Israel—into chaos?

"No," the general interrupted. "Saddam can no longer move a single missile. U.S. radar and satellites are locked onto the frequency of his missiles. The Patriot antimissile systems have been deployed. This means that even the threat to use chemical weapons is now pointless. The key factor of chemical efficacy is surprise, and the Iraqis have lost that advantage. And look at the balance in the air—Iraq is paralyzed."

With regard to the Western hostages detained by Iraq, the general said coldly "unfortunately, that element must be part of a comprehensive assessment. There will be casualties on both sides. Compared with what is at stake, everybody must establish what he regards as an acceptable level of losses."

His remarks seemed to suggest that Saddam Husayn made only one mistake—he was not bold enough. "If he had immediately seized the Saudi oil fields, he would have placed the world in a situation which would have been much more difficult to reverse."

"His plan from the outset," the general said, "has been to set up an economic and military empire. He wanted to add the oil fields of Iran, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia to existing Iraq. He would have headed a colossal power."

The West and the moderate Arabs can no longer back down without Saddam's fall, the destruction of the Iraqi military potential, and Iraq's return to international law, the general said. The war will, he expects, lead to a new regional political situation: Iran will restore close relations with the Arab world and the triumph of the moderate Arab camp allied to the West will have profound repercussions on the other conflicts in Israel and Lebanon.

Commentary Views Saddam's 5 Sep Message

NC0509215790 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
2015 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Commentary by Bahyi-al-Din Shu'ayb: "Musaylamah the Liar"]

[Text] The man has really gone mad. He imagines that he is the prophet of our time and that he is the ayatollah who has come to remove injustice, spread security, and establish justice for humanity.

Muslims everywhere: Behold, Saddam Husayn, the new prophet, is calling on you to march with his bandwagon, and to be loyal to him in rescuing mankind and humanity but not to save yourselves because you have no value and your existence has no significance as long as you die for the sake of spreading the message of the new Musaylamah [bogus Muslim prophet]. The Musaylamah of Iraq says that the people of his country, meaning Iraqis; that the people of the stones, meaning the Palestinian people; and that Jordan, Yemen, Tunisia, Algeria, Libya, Sudan, and Mauritania have believed in him. He also said that any message always starts with minority support and that the number of supporters increases daily.

The Musaylamah of Iraq is not ashamed to compare himself to the honorable prophet. He began the story by saying that he is a member of the Hashemite Quraysh family. He liked the story so much that he began to portray himself and his policy as if he is the prophet of our time. Although Musaylamah has portrayed himself in this form, he has not told us when the revelation came to him. In his message, he gave an ultimatum to everyone in the world that he will neither renounce his stand nor recant his calculations, and that he is prepared for the major fight, that the sabre rattling around him will only increase his faith in the path he has chosen, and that his slogan is: No retreat. This means that Musaylamah is declaring war on the world and emphasizing to those who imagined that he may possibly change his mind and return to his senses that they were imagining things because his stand is final and his slogan is: No retreat.

In his latest message—and we believe that it is his last message—Musaylamah said that the major fight against evil and corruption began on 2 August; namely, that his major fight began on the day he pounced on Kuwait, looted its people's wealth, raped its women, and altered its geographic landmarks. The Musaylamah of Iraq has imagined that his soldiers' seizure of Kuwait has marked the start of the march on the path of faith which he preaches and advocates to all mankind. Can there be such madness?

The Musaylamah of Iraq portrays as a major fight the attack by 100,000 Iraqi soldiers, 1,000 tanks, and thousands of guns against a small number of unarmed people who had slept peacefully in their homes and were awakened when an enormous army attacked. As far as Musaylamah is concerned, the major fight is that his soldiers rape the Muslim women. O Musaylamah: What new call is this whose banner you are raising? What path of benevolence are you claiming to be marching on to do away with evil and corruption? If what you have done is not the very corruption, then what is corruption?

Musaylamah is giving the good news to his followers—the people of the stones, Jordan, Sudan, Libya, Mauritania, and Algeria, that he has begun his major fight under the leadership of the Iraqi vanguard, and that the ultimate goal is to rescue humanity and that what he did in Kuwait has been the beginning and not a mere slogan hurriedly composed. This means that the Musaylamah

of Iraq is declaring war on every state in the world so as to save humanity from evil and corruption.

Will the people whom Musaylamah consider as his supporters realize that they are preparing to fight the world? Do these people on whom Musaylamah has bestowed his blessings and satisfaction and to whom he promised paradise realize that they are being led to what he termed as the great fight of this age under his leadership and that of his family of the sons of al-Qadisiyah [9th century Omayyad defeat of Persians]?

Therefore, the states that expected him to commit an aggression did not fear the unknown and did not read the facts incorrectly but they sensed the impact of the imminent danger to them near their borders with Kuwait. They realized that when Saudi Arabia requested U.S. help to support its forces to avert the danger threatening it, it was not perpetrating a crime against anyone and it was not antagonizing the foreigner against the relative. Musaylamah could not keep his ambitions a secret for long, which he is preaching. He announced them frankly, resoundingly, and indubitably. Musaylamah announced that his big fight began on 2 August to end corruption and purge the land of corruption. In other words, Kuwait was the beginning, and only Musaylamah and his followers knew this. We believe that this frankness is the best evidence for all those who misunderstood matters, who claimed that Iraq has not threatened Saudi Arabia and that Musaylamah harbors no evil against anyone. Because Egypt and Saudi Arabia oppose his foolishness and exposed all his maneuvers and tricks, Musaylamah poured his wrath on them, deprived them of his paradise, and incited their peoples against their leaderships because they refuse to go along with his media and because they do not chant his praises, glorify his greatness, and applaud his big fight.

After threatening the entire world with woe, ruin, and inferno, we see Musaylamah crying painfully for Iraq's children who will be deprived of the milk after all the world opposed him. Did Musalamah imagine that the world would run to him in leaps and bounds to acknowledge him as a caliph and prophet and invoke his blessings so as not to draw his punishment? Did Musaylamah imagine that the world will shudder in fear of his big fight, hand over Kuwait to him, and pay homage and loyalty to him?

Oh Musaylamah the liar: You have thrown the glove in the face of the world and you must drink up your cup to the last drop.

Commentator Reacts to INA Criticism

NC0509201590 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1850 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Commentary by Bahiy-al-Din Shu'ayb: Venerable Saddam in Abu-Nuwas Pub]

[Text] The IRAQI NEWS AGENCY [INA] commented on President Mubarak's interview with the U.S. TIME

magazine in vituperative and disgraceful language. We are incapable, even if we wished, of competing with the Iraqi masters because abuse is their speciality. Moreover, we do not intend to respond to this obscenity. However, what concerns us first is to reveal the level to which the Iraqi mentality stoops while it brags about genuine Islamic values and does not cease to talk about Arab ranks, unity, and the symbols of Arab struggle—about which the Iraqis are totally ignorant.

INA says that patriotism is not mere slogans, but rather a practice, a behavior, and a policy. We agree. However, we would like INA to explain its interpretation of patriotism as practice, behavior, and policy. Does the Iraqi view of patriotism mean occupying and annexing Kuwait and turning it from an independent state to a mere governorate named al-Kadhimah? Are patriotism, nobility, bravery, manliness, and valor raping Muslim women on the streets with children watching? Is one of the values of pan-Arabism and Islam to plunder homes, banks, and shops and take their contents to Iraq, the refuge of pan-Arabism and the new center of leadership? Is it political awareness and mature understanding of international changes to push the Arab world into the crucible of world changes, turning it into a ball of fire just because Saddam Husayn's sick imagination, idiotic conceit, and his poor awareness inspire him to challenge the entire world? We mean the Western world here, because Saddam Husayn has never shown any respect for the Arab world, which he can demolish and destroy. Is it out of sincere patriotism, supported by the proper practice, that Saddam Husayn—the shrewd politician and the inspired Arab—fought a fierce war with Iran for eight long years which annihilated generations, destroyed homes, and squandered wealth, then finally surrendered to Iran what he had fought this brutal and destructive war for?

If Iraqi officials criticize President Mubarak's appeal to Saddam in his interview with TIME to respond to reason and make the correct decision to avert the danger to the Iraqi and Arab people, was President Mubarak mistaken, did he abuse the Iraqi people, did he betray pan-Arabism, or commit a crime against Islam? All that Mubarak did, since the early moments of the catastrophe, was to ring the warning alarm because he had experienced war and learned about its sorrows, and does not want the Iraqi or Arab people to experience the hazards of a new war which has new tools, methods, and brutality.

The entire world is standing in one line against Saddam, not because Saddam is the herald of a new humanitarian message feared by the entire world, but rather because Saddam has turned into a lunatic killer who has no respect for human life. All the claims he is hiding behind will not hide his crime from anyone. The world is no longer a jungle in which a mad monster devours everything that comes his way. The international community has its own status and legitimacy. The likes of Saddam cannot address this legitimacy with fabricated talk which is far from the truth and reality.

Saddam Husayn has insulted the Arab and Islamic worlds in an unprecedented way. We have never heard of a responsible official and a head of a state who describes kings and leaders with the most obscene words. Thanks to Saddam and his advisers, the political dictionary has turned into an obscene vocabulary which reflects the low level to which the political mentality of such leaders has stooped.

You can judge a book by its cover. We can imagine the evils which Saddam is harboring for the world. A man who does not fear God in the way he treats his own people, his nation, and Islam can never respect the dignity or humanity of others. The shameless Saddam claims that Mubarak's appeal to him to resort to reason is a call on the one and only leader to abandon his great historic achievement. He is picturing his unexpected annexation of Kuwait as a historic achievement. If such plundering can be called a historic achievement, what then do we call pillage, burglary, and robbery? Have values been confused to such an extent? What historic achievement is there in seizing Kuwait with an army far larger than the number of those who were in Kuwait during the aggression? Is this Saddam's new al-Qadisiyah?

Shame itself would be disgraced by this new vulgar policy which Saddam wants to use as a guideline for Arab thought in the era of changes. Whether we like it or not, Saddam is counted as an Arab. As long as he is dragging the Arab people into a massacre, compared to which the hazzards of all previous wars would look like child's play, it is the right of honorable Arabs to say to Saddam: Stop where you are because we are not toys with which you play or which you use as an outlet for your sense of inferiority.

The gravest tragedy which burns every human in our entire nation is that someone like Saddam Husayn thinks of himself as Salah-al-Din [12th century Syrian leader], the savior, or the messenger. Saddam has humiliated the values of all Arabs and Muslims. He is no longer able to respect anyone. His ability to lie knows no limits. He claims that God has endowed him with a power that weaklings envy and that he seeks neither money nor wealth. Is it out of strength that a brave man should attack Kuwait? Is it bravery to attack an unarmed people suddenly and unexpectedly? Does a man who seeks no wealth give as the first order to his army to pillage the wealth of Kuwaiti homes? Does a man who seeks no money justify his theft of Kuwaiti oil wealth by saying that he will distribute it among the Muslim poor?

The thing Saddam may not know is that one of the Iraqi people drank a large amount of alcohol in one of the bars in Abu-Nuwas street, stood up, staggered, took down the venerable president's picture from the wall, and kept kicking it with his boot while cursing him. The man's behavior was justified, because he would not have dared to express his views freely if he were sober, out of fear of the venerable president's henchmen.

Saddam Husayn emerged stronger from the Gulf war, but the king never lost heart since Saddam has remained as much in thrall to his dreams and illusions as he had been before it began. Saddam Husayn then initiated a rehabilitation of the Hashemite family overthrown by the July 1958 Revolution in Iraq. Statues of the late King Faysal were erected, his palaces renovated, and talk began about the glories of the Hashemites; and then Saddam was declared a descendant.

Having skillfully paved the way for "the new trap"—ever using the "new Hashemite" leader and the latter's ambitions, it is said that on one of his trips to Baghdad last year, King Husayn confided to the "leader" his alarm that he and his country, "Jordan," were both in danger, and that Israel and the United States were setting the stage for an attack on the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip to end up in the "transfer" or wholesale expulsion of Palestinians to Jordan, the move being the beginning of the substitute homeland plan. To this the "leader" said: All I ask is that you hold out for several hours before my forces reach you, and then march all the way to Jerusalem. He added: From now on our armies are one army....the spoils won from the Iranian Army including 1,000 tanks will be fitted out and sent to you....and let us from today unite our air forces.

Then the air was full of talk about imminent danger, and Iraqi threats to Israel, rather than the other way around. We later heard Saddam Husayn declare that he would incinerate half of Israel with chemical weapons. It now became plain, judging by these "fabricated" tales and the trap that had been skillfully prepared, that the stage was being set to deal a "crushing" blow to Iraq.

In fairness and to set the record straight, it must be pointed out that Egypt had gotten wise to what was going on, and made it plain so as to leave no room for doubt that it would view an aggression against Iraq as one against itself, and that any threat to Jordan it would view as one against itself. Even as the Israelis, in support of their case, cited Saddam's threat to use binary chemical weapons and long-range missiles, Mubarak proposed his initiative to ban from the region both nuclear and chemical weapons, thus forestalling a strike against Saddam.

The first scenario having failed, the need arose for a second—the aim for the second from the start being to get rid of Saddam, always putting emphasis on the role of King Husayn who had always been cast in the role of supporter of Iraq and its people—ever resolutely defiant and opposed to whatever compromised Iraq or threatened its security, people, and children; ever the author of initiatives; ever the man standing fast against the blockade, declaring that he was resolved to break the siege and ensure that food and medicine would get to the people of Iraq. The king is free to come up with whatever initiatives he pleases, just as he is free to stand in opposition. Doors are open to the king from the United States to Britain, to Yemen and to Sudan, with one and only force driving him all the way—the cause of the Hashemite throne...!!

But the king of the Hashemites has ruled as a permanent.
[sentence as published]

The rule of the Hashemites from Mesopotamia, the ambitions having shrunk and became distant from the heart in the empire of the Hashemites and their Great Arab Revolt, after it was from Saudi Arabia, albeit temporarily...!! as long as the goal is not dead, and the cause still lives in the minds of its heirs. [sentence as published]

The bottom line is this: The king's calculations, and all global calculations, indicate that Saddam Husayn's crisis is precursor to the crisis of the end, and that it will no longer be possible for him to stay on the scene. Whether he withdraws from Kuwait or not will make no difference to the end. Whether these calculations prove right or wrong, whether they are borne out by political and military developments, or whether the results do not match predictions, one thing is sure: King Husayn's moves, initiatives, and stand on behalf of Iraq are nothing more than a setting of the stage for the aftermath of all military and political action. It is nothing more than preparation for the day to split the loot in which Saddam will have no share. Then, the mantle of the Iraqi throne will fall on the shoulders of the Hashemite King Husayn, and Jordan—whether it becomes the substitute homeland or a Hashemite kingdom—will be for other heirs, perhaps Crown Prince Hasan, or even the Palestinians.

In conclusion, this is but a reading and an attempt at frank analysis that events may prove right or wrong.

King Husayn's 'Dream' Concerning Iraq Analyzed

JN0509201790 Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic
3 Sep 90 pp 1,3

[Article by Chief Editor Mahfuz al-Ansari: "Al-Husayn...King of Iraq...!! Secrets of Jordan's Rejectionism...?"]

[Text] Let us, for the moment, set aside the relatively narrow pan-Arab and regional outlook in preference for the broader, global arena of the post cold war era and superpower detente, and then try to identify the motives driving the key actors in the [Gulf] crisis. We are thus better placed to make a judicious assessment as to the respective motives driving each actor.

Let us begin with King Husayn of Jordan, and here I must point out that the idea is not to criticize this or that leader, regardless of how close or apart our perspectives may be on this or that issue.

We have learned from history books about the feud between the Hashemites and the Saudis, which dates back to the sidelining of "al-Sharif Husayn" as a result of World War I, and the concomitant dashing of his hopes to be the heir to the Ottoman Empire and to build a grand Arab state ruled by himself and his sons, who were parceled out the region and the thrones in Syria, Iraq, and East Jordan.

History teaches us that the hopes of the Hashemites—the king being one of them—have not exactly been extinguished. If anything, they are rekindled every now and then. The latest attempt at renovation has been the incorporation of a "new sharif to the family," specifically, the emergence of President Saddam Husayn as a new sharif descended from the Prophet's stock to assume the "historic responsibility" of "winning back the right" for its legitimate owners; namely, the sharifs tracing their line of descent to the prophet's household.

King Husayn has not been relieved of the burden of "vengeance" on the "Saudis...!!" who "usurped" the right of the patriarch of the Hashemites—their "latter-day Imam" al-Sharif Husayn.... We also learn from history that King Husayn still smarts from the wound inflicted by the Saudis. One would have expected the fact that monarchic systems of government reign both in Jordan and Saudi Arabia would help to allow bygones be bygones and let the Jordanian monarch come to terms with present-day realities and opt for solidarity dictated by exigencies. The history of Jordanian-Saudi relations has been one of ups and downs and ebbs and flows. However, an absence of mutual trust has been a hallmark of these relations. Astute and skillful as he is, King Husayn has succeeded in selling this notion to an ambitious person whose education in history and the lessons it teaches is not any superior to his limited education about political realities, strategic geopolitics, their laws, and what is permissible and less than permissible.

These ideas became highly visible during the Gulf war in which King Husayn declared himself to be a soldier of "Saddam's", and his army was fully mobilized and put on a war footing vis-a-vis the Persian enemy—the worshippers of fire.

It had been widely believed that in the natural order of things, the Gulf war would bury "Saddam and his army" and with them his ambitions and illusions of stewardship over Arabs and Muslims to revive the old glory of the Qurayshites [Prophet Muhammad's tribe] from whom both King Husayn and Saddam Husayn descend. Once Saddam Husayn and his ambitions were buried, the Iraqi people would come to hold the king in high esteem, inasmuch as the Iraqi people were once ruled by the Jordanian monarch's cousin, King Faysal, and the latter's heir apparent, 'Abd-al-Ilah. This would mark the first step forward down the road of realization of the king's dream.

More Troops Leave for United Arab Emirates

NC0609085390 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0825 GMT
6 Sep 90

[Text] Cairo, 6 Sep (MENA)—A second contingent of Egyptian troops left Cairo for the United Arab Emirates today to strengthen that country's defense capabilities within the framework of Arab solidarity and under an Arab umbrella.

The troops were seen off by Lieutenant General Safiy-al-Din Abu-Shinaf, chief of staff of the Egyptian Armed Forces, and other commanders. The chief of staff commended the troops' high morale and urged them to be good representatives of Egypt and its honor.

The troops were flown by Egyptian transport planes under the protection of the Egyptian Air Force.

Amman Embassy Sources on Returnee Figures

NC0509180290 Cairo MENA in Arabic 11720 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Excerpts] Amman, 5 Sep (MENA)—The number of Egyptians entering Jordanian territory through al-Ruwayshid checkpoint on the Iraqi-Jordanian border reached 975 this morning. They have all left al-Ruwayshid on their way to Amman and al-Aqabah, where they will be board either planes flying between Amman and Cairo, or ferries operating between al-Aqabah port and Nuwaybi, al-Arish, and Sharm al-Shaykh.

According to sources in the Egyptian Embassy in Amman, 4,337 Egyptians left Amman's civilian airport within the past 24 hours by means of the airlift linking Amman and Cairo on EgyptAir flights, Egyptian air force planes, and other Arab and foreign airliners. [passage omitted]

Sources in the Jordanian port of al-Aqabah said 2,000 Egyptian nationals left the port today on their way to Egypt.

Further on Ugandan President's Visit, Talks

NC0509144790 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni made a stopover at the Cairo airport today on his way back to his country from France. Prime Minister Dr. 'Atif Sidqi met him at the airport.

As OAU chairman, the Ugandan president stated that the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait is a violation of all international charters and norms. He described this invasion as regrettable, particularly because it was committed by a Third World country and by one Arab state against another.

The Ugandan president said: I believe that the crisis should be resolved peacefully, so that Kuwait can restore its sovereignty. We have to avoid war, because it will bring harm to many interests, both in the Middle East and other areas, he said.

On his talks with French President Francois Mitterrand, Museveni said he and President Mitterrand discussed Third World economic issues. He added that the French president had promised to pay an amount of money to the Third World in the form of economic development assistance, which will amount to 0.2 percent of the total French national income. The French president also promised to write off part of the debts and cancel certain procedures.

Museveni said: Unless the Western world unites with President Mitterrand in his stand, the Third World debt

problem will persist. He noted that Western countries have not yet agreed to hold a meeting to discuss Third World debts. They want to resolve each country's problem individually instead of collectively, he said.

Official on Economic Effects of Gulf Situation

NC0509152190 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1400 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Excerpts] Cairo, 5 Sep (MENA)—Dr. Muhiy-al-Din al-Gharib, chairman of the executive committee of the Public Investment Authority, has stated that the coming stage will witness more inflow of capital and noticeable activity by Arab and foreign investment companies in Egypt to establish various construction and investment projects, in spite of the negative impact of recent developments in the Gulf region and their reflections on the stock market, capital circulation, and trade exchange in the Arab region.

At a televised seminar, Dr. al-Gharib said these developments certainly left their negative impact on Egyptians' savings, particularly money transfers. Furthermore, they brought the trade exchange between Egypt and both Kuwait and Iraq to a halt, he said. He added that the existing projects which are financed by Arab and foreign sources are proceeding normally with their production in the agricultural, tourism, and industrial fields. He noted, however, that these projects are linked to the Egyptian market and that they are subject to the same factors that affect the Egyptian economy. [passage omitted]

Touching on exports, Dr. al-Gharib said Egyptian exports to Gulf countries were naturally affected, noting that exports to Kuwait and Iraq have stopped completely. Consequently, he said, the amounts due to Egyptian companies in the two countries will affect the available liquidity necessary for the continuation of other projects.

Commenting on the effects of Gulf developments on tourism in Egypt, Dr. al-Gharib said the tourist season was greatly affected this year. He expressed the hope that these effects will not persist.

As for Egyptian workers returning from Iraq and Kuwait, Dr. al-Gharib stated that their number amounts to 190,000 so far and that it is expected to reach 500,000. He said it is hard to say that we can provide sufficient job opportunities for all these workers in the near future. He noted that the current rate of population increase—1.3 million annually—together with the resulting unemployment, require the provision of 500,000 jobs every year.

Dr. al-Gharib stressed the need for speeding up the establishment of the proposed new industrial areas in the governorates to provide the necessary job opportunities. He noted that the proposed eight new industrial areas require the prompt provision of \$400 million, which calls for international cooperation with the Egyptian authorities.

He noted that an agreement will soon be signed with the IMF to provide the financing necessary for the first phase of these projects in each of the eight governorates. When this financing is available, small- and medium-scale projects can be established to consume the surplus manpower, he said. [passage omitted]

Official Reports Trade Statistics With USSR

NC0509155690 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1412 GMT
5 Sep 90

[Excerpt] Cairo, 5 Sep (MENA)—Muhsin Shihab, head of the public sector's authority for foreign trade and chairman of the Egyptian-Soviet Trade Committee, has expressed his optimism about the future of economic relations between Egypt and the Soviet Union. He pointed out that the size of the trade exchange between the two countries has reached more than 1 billion pounds sterling account unit or 3 billion Egyptian pounds, representing the value of the annual protocol and other transactions.

In an exclusive interview with MENA, Shihab said that the two countries are committed to an economic, trade, technical, and cultural agreement in addition to a middle-term three-year protocol which expires this year, and that a new agreement on a five-year protocol for the years 1991-95 will be reached at the end of this year. [passage omitted]

Libya

Chad Dispute Referred to World Court

LD0509130890 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1228 GMT
5 Sep 90

[Text] Tripoli, 5 Sep (JANA)—JANA has learned that the Great Jamahiriya unilaterally submitted its territorial dispute with Chad to the International Court of Justice on 31 August 1990 in implementation of the framework agreement signed by the two countries in Algiers on 31 August 1989. This was after it became difficult to reach an agreement concerning an implementation plan of the framework agreement between the two countries despite the efforts made by the Great Jamahiriya in this context at various levels.

We would like to stress that this is not the first time for the Great Jamahiriya to resort to the International Court of Justice to resolve issues that had become difficult to resolve bilaterally, thus implementing an established principle and method in the Libyan Arab policy which is to resolve problems by peaceful means, to which the Great Jamahiriya has been adhering and reaffirms its adherence despite attempts by many to raise doubts about this firm Libyan policy. [words indistinct].

Sudanese Interior Minister, Delegation Depart

LD0509203390 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic
1930 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Excerpts] Staff Major General Faysal 'Ali Abu-Salih, member of the Sudanese revolution command council and interior minister, and an accompanying delegation left Tripoli this evening after a visit to the Great Jamahiriya. [passage omitted]

Staff Maj. Gen. Faysal 'Ali Abu-Salih stressed the importance of his visit to the Great Jamahiriya and the positive results it has achieved.

In a statement to JANA he said: We have taken all the necessary steps for consolidating the march of integration and unity between the sons of the one Arab people in the Great Jamahiriya and Sudan. He stressed that Sudan is committed to the implementation and application of all the contracted agreements in this respect to achieving all the integration and unity to which we aspire.

Official Denies National Role in Tel Aviv Attack

JN0609065990 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1615 GMT
5 Sep 90

[Text] Damascus, 5 Sep (SANA)—A responsible source at the Libyan External Liaison and International Cooperation Bureau has denied claims made about Libya in connection with what has been described as the document issued by the U.S. State Department on the naval attack carried out by a Palestinian organization on the Tel Aviv shore in occupied Palestine on 30 May of this year.

The source said in a statement distributed today by the Libyan Relations Office in Damascus that the accusations are groundless. The Libyan Jamahiriya had previously, at the beginning of last June and also in a statement issued by the bureau on the sixth of that month, denied any connection with the foreign attack and international cooperation.

Morocco

Egypt's Butrus Ghali Sums Up Visit, Departs

LD0509222990 Rabat RTM Television Network
in Arabic 2030 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] Butrus Ghali, Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, left our country at the end of his visit during which he was received by His Majesty King Hassan II and had contacts with a number of officials.

On the nature of these contacts, the Egyptian minister said:

[Begin Ghali recording] I can say that the contacts which have taken place were extremely positive because the Moroccan policy and the Egyptian policy share common goals. These common goals are to work to bring about peace, to work to settle the Arab conflicts through peaceful means, and to work for the implementation of the UN Security Council resolutions. His majesty the king has also asked me

to convey to His Excellency President Husni Mubarak some Moroccan proposals and ideas concerning the international situation. [end recording]

Tunisia

Attempts To Smuggle Arms Into Algeria Denied

LD0509131590 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] Some radio broadcast concerning an attempt on the Tunisian-Algerian border to smuggle light armaments, such as pistols and machine guns, into Algerian territory.

Asked about the truth of this news, Tunisian official sources categorically denied that such an attempt has taken place, saying that reports about the foiling of two attempts to smuggle arms into Algeria is a matter totally unrelated to Tunisian borders.

President Says Worst Over in Gulf Crisis

OW0509132090 Tokyo KYODO in English 0753 GMT
5 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 5 KYODO—Tunisian President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali said in a letter to Prime Minister

Toshiki Kaifu delivered Wednesday [5 September] that the worst stage of the Gulf crisis is over.

A Foreign Ministry official quoted the president as saying in the letter that for a time he had given up hope, but that the worst part is over, and now he has a little bit of hope.

It is the hope of all countries that war will be avoided, the letter presented to Kaifu by special envoy Mohamed Mestiri reportedly said.

In the letter, Ben Ali said it is unfortunate that Iraq's invasion has divided the Arab community.

This is an Arab problem, but it has spread to all parts of the world, the letter was quoted saying.

The Tunisian president condemned Iraq's invasion of Kuwait on August 2, and called for the restoration of the legitimate Kuwaiti Government of Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah.

Kaifu told former Foreign Minister Mestiri that Japan regards the Iraqi invasion and annexation of Kuwait as a concern of the international community, and not only the Arab world, the Foreign Ministry official said.

Kaifu said it is important for all nations to vigilantly observe economic sanctions imposed on Iraq and occupied Kuwait.

Bahrain

Kuwaiti Finance Minister Meets With Amīr

NC0109183690 Manama WAKH in Arabic
1610 GMT 1 Sep 90

[Excerpt] Manama, 1 Sep (WAKH)—His Highness Shaykh 'Isa Ibn-Salman Al Khalifah, amir of Bahrain; His Highness Khalifah Ibn-Salman Al-Khalifah, Bahraini prime minister; and His Highness Shaykh Hamad Ibn-'Isa Al Khalifah, heir apparent and commander in chief of the Bahrain defense force, received Kuwaiti Finance Minister Shaykh 'Ali Khalifah al-'Adhbi, who is currently visiting Bahrain, in Manama today. The meeting involved an exchange of views on the current developments in the region. [passage omitted]

Departs 1 Sep

NC0109185090 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1818 GMT
1 Sep 90

[Text] Manama, 1 Sep (WAKH)—Kuwaiti Finance Minister Shaykh 'Ali Khalifah al-'Adhbi left Manama today following a brief visit to Bahrain.

He was seen off by Yusuf Ahmad al-Shirawi, minister of development and industry and acting minister of state for the cabinet affairs, and Ibrahim 'Abd-al-Karim, minister of finance and national economy.

Amir Meets Iranian Envoy, Discusses Ties

LD0209060990 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 1 Sep 90

[Text] Our country's charge d'affaires in Manama met the amir of Bahrain this morning and spoke about the Islamic Republic of Iran's principled stance on the Persian Gulf crisis, the occupation of Kuwait by Iraq, and the presence of foreign forces in the region. The amir of Bahrain, for his part, expressed gratitude for our country's stance and said: I am certain that there will be a notable change after this development in the relations between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Persian Gulf Cooperation Council member countries and that we will see signs of this change in the near future.

Kuwait

Amir Sends Envoys to Africa, Latin America

LD3108195690 Riyadh Television Service in Arabic
1830 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] The Kuwaiti Council of Ministers today continued its proceedings under the chairmanship of His Highness Shayh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Sabah, the Heir Apparent and chairman of the Kuwaiti Council of Ministers. Radio Kuwait said that the Council reviewed a number of reports submitted to it and took the appropriate measures concerning them. It also reviewed a report by His Excellency Shaykh 'Ali Khalifa al-'Adhbi,

the Kuwaiti finance minister, concerning the decisions reached by the OPEC countries during their recent meeting in Vienna, in addition to a report by His Excellency Jasim al-Musa, the minister of public works, concerning the recent visit he made to a number of the Gulf countries to follow up the situation of the Kuwaiti citizens in them.

The radio indicated that the Council was told that the amir of Kuwait, His Highness, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, has decided to send Minister of Communications Habib Jawhar Hayat, and Minister of Electricity and Water, Dr Hamud 'Abdallah al-Riqqa, to convey messages from His Highness to a number of presidents of Africa and Latin America.

Oman

Minister, Military Delegation Leave for Britain

NC3008135890 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1255 GMT
30 Aug 90

[Text] Muscat, 30 Aug (WAKH)—Fahar Bin-Taymur Al Sa'id, deputy prime minister for security and defense affairs, left Muscat today for Britain where he will attend the Edinburgh exhibition of flying equipment.

According to the OMANI NEWS AGENCY, a high-ranking military delegation is accompanying the Omani minister.

Qatar

UK Foreign Secretary Hurd Arrives in Doha

Received by Minister Al-Subay'i

NC3108202390 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1945 GMT
31 Aug 90

[Text] Doha, 31 Aug (WAKH)—British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd arrived in Doha this evening for a two-day visit within the framework of his tour of countries in the region.

He was received on his arrival by Qatari Industry and Public Works Minister Muhammad Ahmad 'Ali al-Subay'i.

Delivers Thatcher Message to Amir

NC0109124790 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1140 GMT
1 Sep 90

[Text] Doha, 1 Sep (WAKH)—Qatari Amir His Highness Shaykh Khalifah Ibn-Hamad Al Thani has received an oral message from British Foreign Minister Margaret Thatcher. The message deals with the current crisis and ways to submit to the collective will of the international community, as represented in the UN Security Council resolutions.

The QATARI NEWS AGENCY reports that the meeting [between Shaykh Khalifah and UK Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd] discussed conditions in the Gulf region in light of recent developments, as well as ways to bolster

ties of cooperation and friendship between the two countries. UK Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd and the delegation accompanying him left Doha at noon today, following a two-day visit. The visit was part of a tour of the region's countries.

Meets With Heir Apparent

NC0109123190 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1130 GMT
1 Sep 90

[Text] Doha, 1 Sep (WAKH)—His Highness Shaykh Hamad Ibn-Khalifah Al Thani, Qatari heir apparent and minister of defense, met today with British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd who is visiting Qatar at present.

During the meeting, the two officials reviewed the various aspects of the current crisis in the Gulf region and Arab and international efforts to resolve it in accordance with Arab and international resolutions.

Foreign Minister Returns From Cairo Conference

NC0109130190 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1230 GMT
1 Sep 90

[Excerpt] Doha, 1 Sep (WAKH)—Qatari Foreign Minister Mubarak 'Ali al-Khatir returned to Doha at noon today, having chaired the extraordinary meeting of the Arab foreign ministers which concluded its work in Cairo last night. [passage omitted]

Saudi Arabia

EC Delegation Told Iraq Has Nuclear Weapons

AU0509132090 Rome ANSA in English 1234 GMT
5 Sep 90

[Text] (ANSA)—Nicosia, September 5—Iraq has nuclear weapon capability, high-level Saudi Arabian Government officials told a group of visiting European Parliament MP's in Jeddah, sources close to the EC delegation said Wednesday.

The sources said Saudi officials believe Iraqi President Saddam Husayn is "pursuing his policies in the Gulf crisis with the support of the atomic weapons."

No further details [words indistinct] were (?available) to European Parliament delegation [word indistinct] Roberto Formigoni of Italy [word indistinct] the Italian news agency: [words indistinct] my view that he is [words indistinct] about the situation.

In Jeddah the MP's met King Fahd, the Foreign Minister and the Secretary-General of the Gulf Cooperation Council, who said they did not believe in the promises made "by a [word indistinct] of Saddam Husayn" the sources said, adding that Saudi Arabia is in favor of both a U.S.-Soviet summit on the Gulf crisis and of an air embargo against Iraq.

In the Saudi capital the delegation also met representatives of the Kuwaiti Government-in-exile, who urged that the International Red Cross be allowed in Kuwait.

The delegation, which visited Egypt on Monday, today will travel to Syria on the third stop of a Middle Eastern tour which includes Jordan and Tunisia.

British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd Arrives

LD0309194490 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1603 GMT
3 Sep 90

[Excerpt] Jeddah, 3 Sep (SPA)—British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd arrived in Jeddah this afternoon. He was welcomed at King 'Abd al-Aziz international airport by Foreign Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal. [passage omitted]

Meets With Foreign Minister

LD0309194590 Riyadh Television Service in Arabic
1830 GMT 3 Sep 90

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] The foreign minister, His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, met this evening at the Palace of Conferences in Jeddah with British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd. Bilateral relations, the current situation in the Arabian Gulf region following the Iraqi invasion of the State of Kuwait, international reaction to it, especially concerning the UN Security Council resolutions on imposing a blockade on Iraq, were discussed during the meeting. The two sides stressed that the only solution to the crisis lay in the withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait and the reinstitution of the legitimate government. [passage omitted]

Confers With King Fahd

LD0409211890 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2107 GMT
4 Sep 90

[Text] King Fahd Bin 'Abd al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, custodian of the two holy mosques, may God safeguard him, received in his office at Al-Salam Palace today Mr. Douglas Hurd, British foreign secretary, and the delegation accompanying him. The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Amir Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister, and Alan Munro, British ambassador to the kingdom.

Delivers Message to Kuwaiti Amir

LD0409121790 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1145 GMT
4 Sep 90

[Text] Ta'if, 4 Sep (SPA)—The Amir of the State of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, today received a message from the British prime minister, Margaret Thatcher.

The message was conveyed by the British foreign secretary, Douglas Hurd, during his reception today by His Highness Shaykh Jabir.

Holds News Conference

LD0509202890 Riyadh Television Service in Arabic
1830 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] British Foreign Secretary Mr. Douglas Hurd has declared that his talks with Foreign Minister His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal were deep and elaborate, in addition to the compatibility of their viewpoints, which have a common basis. Hurd told a press conference he gave in Jeddah last night that the Kingdom and Britain are working at repelling the aggression and said in this respect: We prefer to achieve this goal through peaceful means. He also indicated that during his meeting with His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, the amir of the state of Kuwait, he examined with him ways to achieve the unconditional withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait and the return of the legitimate Kuwaiti government. He added on this subject: I have already declared that such is Britain's objective and we will not be satisfied until the Kuwaiti government is reinstated in Kuwait without any bargaining, for the future of Kuwait is not open to any form of bargaining. He also pointed out that public opinion in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the state of the United Arab Emirates and the Sultanate of Oman supported the stands taken by the governments and said: It is clear that the stands taken by these governments have the support of the people. He praised, in this respect, the decision by Saudi youths to volunteer to join the military service and to rally so clearly around the stands taken by the government.

In a reply on the situation in Kuwait, the British foreign secretary said: The Iraqis are behaving like mercenaries in Kuwait more than an army of occupation as they are looting and destroying in a way which suggests that they do not expect to stay there very long.

The British secretary also spoke highly of the meeting of the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] foreign ministers being held in Jeddah today and said that he expected the meeting to give positive results with regard to the collective action of the Gulf states in order to preserve the future of the GCC and the future of security in the Arab Gulf.

Departs 5 Sep

LD0509083790 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic
0800 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Excerpt] British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd left Jeddah this morning after paying a two-day visit to the Kingdom [words indistinct]. [passage omitted]

King Fahd Meets With Visiting U.S. Congressmen

LD0309220690 Riyadh Television Service in Arabic
1830 GMT 3 Sep 90

[Excerpts] King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, the custodian of the two holy mosques, has welcomed the U.S. congressmen whom he had received earlier yesterday, Sunday, at Al-Salam Palace in Jeddah.

The king praised the relations binding the Saudi Arabian Kingdom and the United States, saying that they have developed over scores of years. [passage omitted]

The king dealt with the current situation in the Arab Gulf resulting from the Iraqi invasion on the State of Kuwait. He said: What has happened was strange, and no one expected it. He reviewed the kingdom's position vis-a-vis the Iraqi military concentrations on the Saudi borders, the threat they posed to its security and to the safety of its citizens, and the kingdom's declaration of its sure desire to receive support from the Arab, Islamic and friendly states. He said: We have had response from a number of Arab and Islamic countries, as well as the United States, and this response came in the shortest possible time. His majesty also praised the support the kingdom received from Britain and France and all the peace and justice-loving countries of the world.

His majesty expressed his utmost gratitude to His Excellency President George Bush and members of his government and members of the Congress and Senate for the speed with which they rushed to aid the kingdom. He praised the personal relation that binds him and President Bush, saying that it is an old relationship and that we are in constant touch with each other.

The U.S. delegation put forward a number of questions. Replying to a question about the kingdom's increase of its oil production, King Fahd said: We want to help as much as we can in bringing happiness to the world, particularly in the matter of gasoline. This is because we are fully aware that there are major industrial countries which are in need of oil supplies, and there are also countries with limited incomes which would be embroiled in inflation if oil prices were to rise. He added: Because of this, we will do all we can to prevent the world from suffering an oil problem, which affects the basic daily lives of peoples. He expressed his hope that other oil-producing countries would follow Saudi Arabia in this respect. [passage omitted]

The custodian of the two holy mosques reiterated the Kingdom's rejection of the Iraqi forces' invasion of Kuwait, saying that it is not acceptable. He stressed the need for the withdrawal of the Iraqi forces from Kuwait unconditionally and the restoration of the Kuwaiti legitimacy under the leadership of His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, the amir of Kuwait, and the return home of Kuwait's inhabitants. The king affirmed that all the resolutions adopted by the UN Security Council, the Arab League, the Islamic Conference Organization, and the Gulf Cooperation Council have been unanimous in demanding the ruler of Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait without hesitation or any conditions.

King Fahd said he believes that the Iraqi president still has the opportunity to rectify the situation in the shortest possible time.

The king affirmed that the Saudi Arabian Kingdom is a peace-seeking country, and said that there are ways leading to peace, and there are legitimate rights for

existing peoples led by the Palestine people. I believe that granting the peoples their rights is one of the elements for the establishment of peace. He cited in this regard the problems in South Africa and South America, saying that matters were settled when these countries secured their rights, and stability and peace reigned over the world. [passage omitted]

Before concluding, the king said: I hope to hear from the Iraqi president that he has decided to withdraw from Kuwait, with all that would mean, including the Kuwaiti people's return to their homeland under the leadership of his highness, the amir of the state of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah.

Crown Prince Meets With Kuwaiti Prime Minister

LD0109161290 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1528 GMT
1 Sep 90

[Excerpt] Jeddah, 1 Sep (SPA)—His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, crown prince and deputy prime minister and commander of the national guard, received at his palace today His Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Sabah, heir apparent and prime minister of the sisterly state of Kuwait, and the delegation accompanying him. [passage omitted]

Large Numbers Volunteer for Army Service

PM0509093990 Jeddah UKAZ in Arabic
29 Aug 90 p 1

['Abdallah al-'Urayfi] report: "Recruitment Centers Received Over 20,000 Volunteers Over Two Days"]

[Excerpt] Major General Salih al-Ghufayli, chairman of the Armed Forces high committee for war information, has emphasized to UKAZ that recruitment and training centers in the kingdom's various provinces received over 20,000 volunteers over Saturday and Sunday last. He pointed out that the door will remain open to citizens and there will be no deadline for applications from volunteers.

He said that the volunteers will receive a 45-day initial training to get used to military life and its requirements. Then they will receive specialized training courses according to their area of military specialization. Then they will be sent to their military units as reserve forces to replace the forces deployed at the front. [passage omitted]

United Arab Emirates

Shaykh Zayid, Bush Discuss Gulf Crisis

LD3108125290 Dubayy Domestic Service in English
1030 GMT 31 Aug 90

[Text] President His Highness Zayid Bin-Sultan al Nuhayyan today received a telephone call from U.S. President George Bush.

They discussed the current situation in the region, the results of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, and the Iraqi

violation of international laws and norms. Mr. Bush informed Shaykh Zayid that Secretary of State James Baker would soon visit the Gulf, including the United Arab Emirates, at the head of a congressional delegation to consult on issues of interest to the region.

Zayid, King Hassan Confer on Regional Situation

JN0109133490 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic
0930 GMT 1 Sep 90

[Text] His Highness Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the state, has held a telephone conversation with his brother His Majesty King Hassan II of sisterly Morocco. They exchanged views on the developments in the region and assessed their various dimensions.

British Foreign Secretary Arrives in Abu Dhabi

NC0109130690 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1230 GMT
1 Sep 90

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 1 Sep (WAKH)—British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd arrived here this afternoon on a visit to the United Arab Emirates [UAE] as part of his current tour of the region.

In an arrival statement to the EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY, the British secretary said his talks with UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid Ibn-Sultan Al Nuhayyan will stress the need to implement the UN resolutions which call for Iraq's withdrawal from Kuwait and for the restoration of the Kuwaiti legitimate government. He added that he is not pessimistic regarding the possibility of resolving the Gulf crisis peacefully. He noted that there is still a chance for Saddam Husayn to comply with the UN resolutions. The British secretary warned that if Saddam Husayn fails to abide by the resolutions, the only option is to adopt the other measures to implement these resolutions.

The British foreign secretary expressed the conviction that the current Gulf crisis will rearrange international policies, pointing out that the successful all-out naval blockade on Iraq represents a serious international step on the road to resolving the crisis.

Gives Zayid Thatcher Message

NC0109184190 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1825 GMT
1 Sep 90

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 1 Sep (WAKH)—His Highness Shaykh Zayid Ibn-Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the United Arab Emirates [UAE], has received a verbal message from British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher which deals with the current crisis in the region.

The message was delivered by UK Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd, during his meeting with Shaykh Zayid today.

Discusses Air Blockade Against Iraq

NC0109185990 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1750 GMT
1 Sep 90

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 1 Sep (WAKH)—British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd has said that his country is cooperating with the other world countries to implement the UN resolutions and achieve the withdrawal of the Iraqi forces from Kuwait. This step, he added, could be realized by boycotting Iraqi oil in a bid to exhaust the Iraqi economy.

In an interview with the United Arab Emirates television, broadcast from Abu Dhabi tonight, the British foreign secretary pointed out that in order to establish an air blockade against Iraq we need special equipment and an approval from the UN Security Council. He stressed that the peaceful solution is the best solution. However, the international community is currently coordinating efforts against the Iraqi aggression and British ships are participating with others to this effect, he added. The British secretary said that certain countries intend to take part in the multi-national force through financial aid. He emphasized that all the world countries are currently united against the aggression.

In his interview, the British foreign secretary said his country does not accept negotiations concerning the UN resolutions which must first be implemented. He added that this has been reiterated by British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher to King Husayn of Jordan. He stressed that Jordan must comply with the UN resolutions on the issue of boycott.

Douglas Hurd said that it is not negotiations which are taking place between the UN secretary general and the Iraqi foreign minister. It is an attempt to discover Iraq's intention regarding the implementation of the UN resolutions, he maintained.

The British foreign secretary said that he learned about the tragic situation from some Kuwaiti evacuees who had lost their sons and assets as a result of the Iraqi military occupation of their country.

Meets With Defense Minister

LD0209111490 Dubayy Domestic Service in English
1030 GMT 2 Sep 90

[Text] British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd today left for Oman at the end of a two-day visit to the United Arab Emirates for his talks on the Gulf crisis. He today held talks in Dubayy with the defense minister, His Highness Shaykh Muhammad Bin-Rashid al-Maktum, about the international efforts to implement Arab and United Nations resolutions.

Yemen

UK's Hurd Arrives, Holds Talks on Gulf Crisis

JN0309140490 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 3 Sep 90

[Text] Brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, chairman of the Presidential Council, received in his office today visiting British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd. They discussed current Gulf and Arabian Peninsula developments. The British minister briefed the brother president on his country's position on the Gulf crisis. The brother president, for his part, outlined to Mr Hurd Yemen's consistent line on the need for a peaceful resolution of the crisis and an exclusion of the military option given the dire consequences it holds for regional interests and world peace. Chairman Salih emphasized that in concert with brothers and friends, the Yemen will work hard to contain the crisis to spare the region a military confrontation that could drag in many parties.

Also raised at the meeting were relations between the Republic of Yemen and the UK and their furtherance.

Foreign Minister Dr 'Abd-al-Karim al-Iryani and the British ambassador in Sanaa attended.

Meanwhile, Messrs Hurd and al-Iryani met separately to review bilateral ties and explore ways of defusing the Gulf crisis so as to spare the region a military explosion.

Upon arrival in Sanaa today, Mr. Hurd told SABA he is glad to be in Yemen on his second visit since Yemeni unity, he said, opens the way for overall Arab unity. The British have a keen interest in Yemen's development, given the traditional bilateral ties and cooperation. He will take the opportunity to talk about the Gulf crisis with Yemeni ministers, especially the foreign minister. He asserted that, by virtue of geography and its UN Security Council membership, Yemen has a key and critical role to play in deescalating the situation.

Hurd, Salih News Conference

JN0309190490 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
1700 GMT 3 Sep 90

[Text] Following his meeting with British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd, brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, chairman of the Presidential Council, answered questions put to him by British journalists accompanying Mr. Hurd on his visit to Sanaa. The chairman called his meeting with Mr. Hurd useful, adding that the talks took up Arab developments, with special emphasis on the Arabian peninsula and the Arabian Gulf. The chairman said: Our positions are far apart only on some issues. We held identical views on most of the issues that came up, chairman Salih added. On the matter of bilateral ties, the chairman said the talks were excellent, adding that our bilateral ties are not experiencing any problems. We have found the British foreign secretary quite understanding.

The brother chairman regretted that the Western press has sought to discredit Yemen's policies by carrying incorrect information about our country. Some newspapers, particularly in the UK, have reported that Iraq has deployed aircraft, missiles, and other hardware to Yemen, and this is untrue. We do not see why Iraq should deploy its weapons to Yemen when it needs them to defend itself. In any case, Yemen has no need for the weapons of another country on its territory. He asserted that Yemen is not a party to the dispute, but is striving to bring about a peaceful solution to the crisis in the Arabian Peninsula and the Gulf.

The chairman said that in concert with the international community, the Yemen is complying fully with all UN Security Council resolutions on economic sanctions, except where foodstuffs and medicines are concerned. Asked whether the economic siege against Iraq will produce a breakthrough in the crisis and whether the answer lies in a tough approach, the chairman said: The answer to the problem, to our way of thinking, does not lie in the economic and military blockade. There are other avenues to be explored, he added. A resolution of the crisis and a breakthrough could lie in the withdrawal of the foreign forces [from Saudi Arabia] and the Iraqi forces from Kuwait. On the UN Security Council resolution calling for the unconditional withdrawal of Iraq from Kuwait, the brother chairman said: Our country sanctions neither occupation by force nor the foreign military presence on Arab soil. By the same token, our country has not countenanced the invasion of Panama or Afghanistan, or, for that matter, the Zionist occupation of Arab territory. Asked if the brother chairman had met with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn shortly before the Kuwait crisis, or whether the latter promised not to march into Kuwait, the brother chairman said he neither met him then nor received any such pledge.

Answering another question on the Yemeni viewpoint on how to resolve the problem—since Yemen thinks that the economic blockade does not represent a solution—the brother leader chairman said: We think the solution lies in the withdrawal of foreign forces [word indistinct] from the region, and the withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait. He asserted that this is the best solution in order to avoid destruction of the Gulf and the [Arabian] Peninsula. He also indicated that if the foreign military presence and the Iraqi presence in Kuwait continues, the region will remain unstable and no one can guarantee that a war will not break out.

British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd answered the questions of the correspondents of the Yemen News Agency, SABA, and the press. Asked whether he agreed with the brother chairman on the withdrawal of British soldiers from the Gulf desert and their return to their country, and on the allegations propagated by British media and officials to the effect that Iraqi forces are stationed in Yemen and that Yemen has not abided by the resolution to boycott Iraq, the British minister said: I would like to assert, first of all, that there are no British forces in the desert. However, there are British naval forces in the Gulf, which came as a result of what happened in Kuwait and in response to the invitation of friendly countries like Bahrain and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Moreover, the British minister said that the minute these forces are asked to leave, they will do so. However, the occupation of Kuwait must come to an end, he said.

The British official added: As for other (?forces), I would like to stress that what his excellency the president pointed to in the beginning of the conversation was [word indistinct] and very useful. His excellency the president also underlined the economic difficulties that will face Yemen as a result of its implementation of and adherence to the UN resolutions, and I think this is something that the international community should consider. We have taken this into consideration, and Yemen's suffering has to be dealt with within the context of its abidance by the UN resolutions. The British minister said what is important is that the crisis should end.

Reacting to another question noting that the peoples of the region now feel that the current foreign presence in their countries is a new colonialist design, the British minister argued that colonies are set up when a certain force establishes itself in conflict with the desire of the people. This, however, does not apply to the current situation. It is the right of Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, or other Arab countries to ask for support and assistance from their friends. He added that saying this is a colonialist presence is nonsense. When those who asked for help feel that we should leave, we will be happy, the minister added.

Departs Sanaa

JN0309200390 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
1700 GMT 3 Sep 90

[Text] British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd left Sanaa this afternoon at the conclusion of a short visit to our country. He was seen off by Foreign Minister Dr. 'Abd-al-Karim al-Iryani and the British ambassador in Sanaa.

Saddam Repeats Call for Jihad in 5 Sep Address

JN0509164190 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic
1500 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Message from President Saddam Husayn to "the Iraqi people, faithful Arabs, and Muslims everywhere" on 5 September—read by announcer]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. O great Iraqi people, O faithful Arabs wherever you may be, O Muslims in our Islamic world, wherever you recall your obligations to God as partners in the confrontation of right against falsehood and faith against evil. O sincere Islamists, for whatever path of faith in God and in human rights you have chosen and wherever you perform your duties toward God: The great confrontation began on 2 August. Standing at one side of this confrontation are peoples and sincere leaders and rulers, and on the other are those who stole the rights of God and the tyrants who were renounced by God after they renounced all that was right, honorable, decent, and solemn, and strayed from the path of God until they eventually opposed it when they became obsessed by the devil from head to toe. It is the great confrontation of the age taking place in this part of the world, where the material has overwhelmed the spiritual and all moral and ethical values. Thus, there has been a disruption in the equation that God Almighty wanted for humanity, which He conveyed through His books and messengers, whom He asked to convey specific duties to all mankind. Owing to the acts of the evildoers, man has been on the verge of losing even his humanity and being separated from the path of God or the path of God separated from him. It is the confrontation of right against falsehood, the confrontation of faith against infidelity, and a confrontation between the obligations to God Almighty against the devil's tendency to appropriate the rights of humanity and misguide the ranks of the feeble.

Almighty God has made His choice, and the gathering of the faithful, militant, and mujahidin who dedicated themselves to principles have responded to this choice. Almighty God has chosen the Arab homeland as the field of confrontation and the Arabs as the leaders of the faithful gathering with the Iraqis as the vanguard force. Thus, the message that God has wanted to convey since the first ray of faith emerged is being reaffirmed. This message is that the Arab homeland be the first arena of faith and that the Arabs be the permanent cadre to lead the faithful gathering on the path that pleases Almighty God and that leads mankind to real happiness.

It is your turn, O Arabs, to save the entire human race, not only yourselves. Your turn has come to show your values and to highlight the meanings of the message of Islam in which you believe and which you practice. Your turn has come to save humanity from the injustice of the tyrants and usurpers who followed the path of inequity, corruption, dissolution, exploitation, arbitrariness, tyranny, and pride, led along the evil path by the United States of America. Your turn has come as a leading

faithful cadre in the human gathering of believers to confront oppression and oppressors, and I do not believe you would relinquish this role to another.

Brothers: When the confrontation began, some thought that it was the outcome of a slogan raised in haste, and that to dissuade the gathering of the faithful from the path and its objectives, it was enough to accumulate a gathering of villains, reprobates, and infidels, and to accumulate the means of destruction on the border of the faithful, patient, and mujahid Iraq, so that the vanguard gathering would be defeated before all the faithful could build upon it. Their thinking and luck has failed them. This is because the kinsfolk of the al-Qadisiyah [9th century Omayyad defeat of Persians] have chosen this path as a result of their deep belief in God and in the nation and its role. And, although they have depended on God in the confrontation, they have taken into consideration the worst that can be launched against them by the arrows of injustice and treachery. When they waged the confrontation, therefore, they did so with faithful hearts that do not know fear or suspicion and that only know the slogan of victory, and only victory, God willing. Ah, verily, the help of God is always near. [Koranic verse]

O Arabs: You have proven to the inhabitants of the earth that when God chose you so that your nation would bear witness to the whole of humanity, He was right. Thus, have we made of you an ummat [nation] justly balanced, that ye might be witness over the nations, and the apostle a witness over yourselves. [Koranic verse]

The steadfast stone-throwing people who were assigned by God to perform the duty of showing right against the wrong of the Zionists led your ranks in showing great solidarity for Iraq, and in showing how capable right is, and how weak wrong becomes when it is confronted by right.

The manifestation of solidarity and demonstration of the disparity between right and wrong have followed: from Jordan, Yemen, Tunisia, Algeria, Libya, the Sudan, and Mauritania. The zeal of faith has exceeded the gathering of the faithful to extend to all the sons of the Arab nation and our Muslim world. And, after right was revealed wherever it was revealed correctly, the gathering of supporters extended to the wide expanse of humanity outside the realm of the Arab and Islamic world. Hence, the confrontation has acquired a comprehensive human character.

Brothers: The beginning of any confrontation of this kind always starts with a smaller number that includes only the household ["Ahl al-Bayt": meaning the group most directly involved]. It will then transcend this household to humanity at large. In this confrontation, the household ["Ahl al-Bayt": meaning the Prophet Muhammad's household]—with due respect to the rights of the Prophet Muhammad's household—is the [Islamic] nation which was chosen by God, so as to possess a leading faith among the gathering of the faithful. The gathering of the faithful does not presuppose an automatic sequence, but assumes intermingling of an Arab

and a non-Arab on the basis of the ruling of the holy verse: Verily, the most honored of you in the sight of God is the most righteous of you.

Considering the circumstances of the confrontation in the time of the prophet, the most vigorous opponents of the values of the [Islamic] message were among the ranks of the Arabs, led by those who have illegitimate interests, which could never stay where they are or the way they are, except at the expense of the humanity of man.

The evil gathering or those who have taken their side—those whom God has chosen that they not see the right path, having chosen wandering, evil, and corruption, led by those called by the foreigners the rulers of their peoples—are taking a stand against the faithful among the Arabs. But just as God has split the ranks of the infidel, so that people take the guided path from His true religion, He shall disrupt the misguided weak. Indeed their gathering has been dispersed right from the beginning so that the upper hand will be for the deprived faithful who have known that the road to God is right, through their suffering against the gathering that has lost its path to God, when it degenerated into corruption and corrupted others and sought the help of infidels against faith and the faithful.

As for America's sea and air fleets, its armies and those who slipped with it into the abyss, they will only strengthen in us, the leadership, and the great people of Iraq, our faith in the path that we have chosen in order that God, the people, the nation, and humanity may bless us. The rattling of their weapons and the use of these weapons will only increase our determination to respond to sincere principles, their slogans and their applications, in social justice, in rejecting tyranny, division, and weakness. The motto of the faithful is: There is no going back; the believer will advance. This is our eternal motto which will not be dropped from our hands. Under the banner of faith and jihad, many heads will roll—heads that have never been filled with pride and whose owners never knew the path of faith. Let those who have been promised martyrdom have it.

Muslims everywhere: Fahd, Husni, and their allies from among those who have evil and base records have added to their injustice by repeating the role of Abu-Raghal who acted as the guide of the Abyssinian Ibrahah [who led the attack on Ka'ba before Islam] on the road to pre-Islam Mecca, and was defeated by God with flights of birds and stones of baked clay. Indeed, the part played by Abu-Raghal was less vicious than their role when they called in invading armies that have occupied and desecrated the land housing the sacred places of Muslims and Arabs. Thus, we are duty-bound to engage in holy jihad so that we can liberate the two holy mosques from captivity and occupation, after the one who called himself their servant betrayed them. Your brothers in Iraq will know no peace of mind until the last soldier of occupation departs by choice or is expelled from the land of Arabism in Najd and Hejaz [Saudi Arabia].

We call on all Arabs to do what they can within their means in light of God's laws and the sanctities of jihad and struggle against this infidel and occupying presence to expose, without hesitation and through all means, the actions of the traitors and their allies of corruption and oppression.

We appeal to the enduring and afflicted people of Hejaz; the oppressed people of Najd and the eastern province; the people of Mecca, al-Madinah, Ha'il, Riyadh, and Jeddah; the fraternal people in dear Egypt; and all the sons of our nation wherever they disagree with their rulers due to the differences over dignity, sovereignty, justice, and faith, to revolt against treason and traitors and against the infidel foreign occupation of the land of their shrines. We are with them. And more importantly, God is with them.

O brothers, the children of Iraq will prove, the children of Iraq who are deprived of milk will prove to those greedy invaders and their aides that they are more capable. Those who betrayed their nation, their honor as men, and the meanings and values of humanity will be vanquished before the steadfastness of children. The women of Iraq will prove to them that they are more accurate and skillful in managing things than those who lost the wisdom of management and accurate action. And even before all this, the men of Iraq are beyond comparison; this is because God and his angels are with the good and faithful people at a time when the evil people aligned themselves away from the path of good deeds, dignity, and honor. They went against all noble values. Wretched are their deeds.

Have you known, O brothers, in the history you have studied, of someone who tried to starve a nation to death by preventing food to reach them? Have you known, O brothers, in the history you have studied of someone who tried to starve a nation to death by preventing food from reaching them? Have you seen the acts of Nazism, which the West rants on about, claiming to hoist the banner of confrontation and comparing it to everything loathsome and inhuman to it, cut off medicine from a whole nation so that the sick will die because there is no medicine? Have you ever seen in the history you have read children dying because of an intentional decision to stop milk from reaching them? If you have not seen or heard about this before, the United States has done all this, urged by Zionism. In doing so, it has been supported by some Western politicians who have been offered a position of rank or have been pushed toward a position of rank by the advertisements of Zionist propaganda and financial institutions; those who have trampled on humanitarian principles underfoot, thus adding themselves to the list of those who will be cursed by history.

The Arab and Iraqi nation will not forget their evil deed; they will be backed by the gathering of humanity alongside the gathering of the faithful Muslims, after humanity awakens from its sleep and reveals justice in its true form.

The children of Iraq, before the people of Iraq, do not want us to beg for the milk they need from the infidels and shameless. Their valiant fathers and the glorious daughters of al-Qadisiyah will extract life for them, relying on God. We will see the portraits of the children who defeated the tyrants and the superpower etched in the hearts of all those who will be liberated and released by this confrontation after the forces of the tyrants retreat and their abortive gathering flees.

History will record immortal pages on those men and women who stand as one against the invaders who desecrated with their soldiers' feet the land of Najd and Hejaz. God will not champion the believers over the infidels unless the believers show that they are well prepared for the confrontation and the sacrifices.

O brothers: Your Iraqi brothers have chosen a vanguard position in your group. In light of their long experience, they know that the preparation for sacrifice of those who chose the vanguard position should be in harmony with the position chosen. They know that—to God—their position in such a choice will be in harmony with the scope of their endurance, patience, and sacrifices. They believe in God and the duty called for by God. They will remain as they have always been—they will make a mockery of the unjust blockade and will not attach any weight other than the weight of evil. They will pray to their mother, the land of Iraq, which will respond with its bounty which it never withheld from its sons. It has always been the supporter of the fighters in every defeat they inflicted on the invaders throughout history. They will be able to defeat the camp of invaders, whether it remains the same or is doubled with the dispatch of other troops.

O Iraqis, and O you brothers everywhere: Such a group or a larger group is appropriate for the seriousness with which you have prepared for the confrontation. The believers should not confront a group similar to their own or slightly greater.

Apostle. Rouse the believers to the fight. If there are twenty amongst you, patient and persevering, they will vanquish 200; if a hundred, they will vanquish a thousand of the unbelievers: for those are a people without understanding. [Koranic verse]

What then will the situation be if we know that the number of Iraqi volunteers who came to sacrifice their lives for principles and the homeland exceeds 5 million Iraqis, not to mention the proud men within the ranks of the Armed Forces who total more than 1 million combatants? For the invaders to attack this number, they have to mass twice this number. Consequently, the invaders need to mass a minimum of 12 million combatants. O brothers, you know that the air force cannot settle a ground battle, regardless of the sophisticated weaponry. This is the rule governing all conventional and liberation wars. The Vietnamese people were the last to confront this sophisticated capability.

In spite of the fact that the Americans turned what was then South Vietnam into a real base for serving their military operations against what was then North Vietnam and secured there all that would offer their troops comfort and entertainment, these opportunities do not exist—or are not as abundant—on the holy lands of Najd and Hejaz. Their outcome [in Vietnam] is known to you. How would they do then if they were to confront Iraq under completely different circumstances, except for what the people, including the Vietnamese and Iraqi people, have in common: the determination to face the invaders?

Iraq's support at present is all for the honorable leaders and rulers, the Arab nation's people, all the well-meaning and faithful sons of the Islamic nation, the well-intentioned throughout the world led by the oppressed people who are treated unfairly because of the injustice inflicted by the exploiting Americans and others. First and foremost, God is with them.

Those involved will be sorry, and their gathering will be utterly routed if they undertake a military confrontation. Their footprints will be erased from the entire region, and then Jerusalem will be restored, free and Arab, to the lap of faith and the faithful. Palestine will be liberated from the Zionist invaders and the Arab and the Islamic nation will see a sun that will never set. They will be in God's protection when they have returned to the Almighty. God is great, God is great, God is great. Accursed be the lowly ones.

[Signed] Saddam Husayn

[Dated] 15 Safar 1411 Hegira, corresponding to 5 September 1990 A.D.

'Kuwaiti Prime Minister' Reportedly Executed
JN0509145890 Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic
4 Sep 90 p 4

[By Mukhtar 'Abd-al-'Al from Damascus]

[Text] Egyptians and Kuwaitis who managed to flee Kuwait to Syria via Iraq and Turkey have said that the family of 'Ala' Husayn, whom Saddam had appointed Kuwaiti prime minister, is now accepting condolences on his death at the family home in al-Rumaniyah. They said that Saddam had him executed.

Hamad al-Jasim, a Kuwaiti national, said that 'Ala', who was a lieutenant in the Kuwaiti Army, received his education in Iraq. He said that Saddam used 'Ala' after the invasion to show that there was a revolution in Kuwait. Al-Jasim went on to say: Saddam promoted him to the rank of colonel and showed him speaking to an Iraqi newscaster on television four days after the invasion. During the 10-minute interview, 'Ala' was observed to be in a state of total exhaustion, weakness, and confusion. He stuttered. In the interview, he proved to be a man incapable of mental

coordination. He only uttered four words. The Iraqi newscaster asked the questions and provided the answers, saying that 'Ala' revolted against the Croesus of Kuwait to serve the people.

Hamad al-Jasim said: Afterward, 'Ala' Husayn was seen only once; that is, when he met with Saddam and proclaimed unity. Then 'Ala' disappeared. A few days ago, we received news of his death. His family performed the proper ceremony accepting condolences on the death of their son. However, no Kuwaiti offered condolences because of the dirty role that 'Ala' played, despite the fact that Kuwaitis are well aware that he was a puppet who had no control over his actions.

An Egyptian engineer named Mustafa Muhammad Ahmad Musa working at the al-Khuraifi Contracting Company in Abu Haliqah confirmed the news. He added that 'Ala' was actually executed once he played the role assigned to him.

Minister Says Bush Can Address Nation via TV

JN0609093490 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0910 GMT
6 Sep 90

[Text] Baghdad, 6 Sep (INA)—Latif Nusayyif Jasim, minister of culture and information, has expressed readiness to give George Bush the opportunity to talk to the Iraqi people.

Commenting on statements made by the U.S. president, the minister said a working team from Iraqi television is prepared to offer President Bush the opportunity to talk on channels one and two.

In press statements on television coverage in the United States, the U.S. President had said that President Saddam Husayn has been fortunate to have had the opportunity to address the American people, and I also would like to present my viewpoint to the Iraqis.

135 Canadians Arrive in Baghdad From Kuwait

NC0609105690 Paris AFP in English 1024 GMT
6 Sep 90

[Text] Ankara, Sept 6 (AFP)—A group of 135 Canadian women and children flew into Baghdad from Kuwait Thursday and were expected to continue on to Ankara later in the day, Canadian diplomatic sources said here.

The hostages flew into Baghdad on an Iraqi Airways plane leased by Canada.

About 20 Canadian women and children who were being held in Iraq were expected to join the group on the same Boeing 707 and about 20 other foreigners might also join the flight, the sources said.

The plane, which arrived in Baghdad at around 0900 GMT, three hours behind schedule, was expected to stop over for four hours before going on to Ankara.

'Aziz To Leave on 'Official Visit' to Tehran

JN0609060090 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0550 GMT
6 Sep 90

[Text] Baghdad, 6 Sep (INA)—The IRAQI NEWS AGENCY has learned that Mr. Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, will leave for Tehran Sunday [9 September] leading a delegation on an official visit to Iran.

Defense Ministry Calls Up Reinforcements

Statement No. 1

JN0509210690 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic
2030 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Statement No. 1 for 1990 issued by the Mobilization and Statistics Department at the Defense Ministry on 5 September 1990]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Statement No. 1 for 1990 issued by the Mobilization and Statistics Department at the Defense Ministry:

1. In accordance with Article C of Paragraphs 1 and 3 of Section 15 of the amended Military Service Law No. 65 for 1969, it has been decided to call up the reservist officers who graduated from the classes Nos. 24, 25, 26, and 27 to the reserve service in all specialties and arms, except the chemical.

2. Those who are in the country will join the arms schools within three days—between 7 and 9 September 1990.

3. Those who are abroad will see the Iraqi embassies, representative offices, or the military charge d'affaires within 15 days as of the date mentioned above to decide on their situation.

4. This statement is considered an official notification to all ministries, departments not affiliated with ministries, the socialist sector, the private sector, and the public sector to inform the graduates of the abovementioned classes among their staffs to implement the content of the statement.

[Signed] The acting director of the Mobilization and Statistics Department.

[Dated] 5 September 1990.

Statement No. 2

JN0509212890 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic
2030 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Statement No. 2 for 1990 issued by the Mobilization and Statistics Department at the Defense Ministry on 5 September 1990]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Statement No. 2 for 1990 issued by the Mobilization and Statistics at the Defense Ministry:

1. In accordance with Article C of Paragraphs 1 and 3 of Section 15 of the amended Military Service Law 65 for 1969, it has been decided to call up those born in 1953, armorers [al-musallahin] only, to army service.

2. Those who are in the country shall go to their mobilization centers within three days beginning 10 September; those who are outside the country have 15 days.

3. This statement is considered official notification to all ministries, departments not affiliated with the ministries, the socialist sector, the mixed sector, and private sector to inform their staff born in 1953 to implement the content of the statement.

[Signed] The acting director of the Mobilization and Statistics Department.

[Dated] 5 September 1990.

Saddam Welcomes King Husayn to Baghdad 5 Sep

JN0509202690 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic
2008 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn Ibn-Talal, monarch of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, arrived in Baghdad this evening on a visit to the country.

Leader President Saddam Husayn led those who received him. Leader President Saddam Husayn embraced his brother His Majesty King Husayn Ibn-Talal at the foot of the ramp of his majesty's private plane. The president also shook hands with the delegation accompanying his majesty, welcoming them and congratulating them on their safe arrival.

His Majesty King Husayn Ibn-Talal then shook hands with those who received him: Revolution Command Council members Taha Muhyi-al-Din Ma'ruf, vice president of the Republic; Sa'dun Hammadi, deputy prime minister; Latif Nusayyif Jasim, culture and information minister; and the Iraqi ambassador in Amman.

His Majesty King Husayn Ibn-Talal is accompanied by a delegation comprising Mr. Mudar Badran, prime minister; al-Sharif Zayd Ibn-Shakir, chief of the Royal Court; Marwan al-Qasim, foreign minister; and 'Adnan Abu-Awdah, his majesty's political adviser.

Discuss Current Developments

JN0509203590 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic
2010 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] Leader President Saddam Husayn and his brother His Majesty King Husayn Ibn-Talal, monarch of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, held a round of talks this evening during which they discussed brotherly bilateral ties and current developments on the Arab arena.

The talks were attended by Revolution Command Council members Taha Muhyi-al-Din Ma'ruf, vice president of the Republic; Sa'dun Hammadi, deputy prime minister; Latif Nusayyif Jasim, culture and information minister; and the Iraqi ambassador in Amman. The talks were also attended by the delegation accompanying His Majesty King Husayn.

Saddam Meets With Armed Forces General Staff

JN0109201890 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1958 GMT
1 Sep 90

[Text] Baghdad, 1 Sep (INA)—Staff Field Marshal President Saddam Husayn, the commander in chief of the Armed Forces, today chaired a meeting of the Armed Forces General Staff.

The meeting was attended by Staff General 'Abd-al-Jabbar Shanshal, the defense minister; and Husayn Kamil Hasan, minister of industry and military industrialization.

Ibrahim Presides Over 'Mobilization' Meeting

JN0209203690 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2020 GMT
2 Sep 90

[Text] Baghdad, 2 Sep (INA)—'Izzat Ibrahim, deputy chairman of the Revolution Command Council (RCC), this afternoon presided over a meeting grouping party and state officials to review the accelerating mobilization of the masses in Baghdad and the governorates.

The RCC deputy chairman commended the enthusiasm and cohesion of the masses in their approach to the battle of dignity and pride against imperialism and Zionism. It is to be recalled that there are now as many as 5.5 million volunteers in Baghdad and the governorates.

Levi on Talks With Baker, Meeting With Bush
TA0609062590 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0505 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Interview with Foreign Minister David Levi by political reporter Oded Ben-'Ami, on 5 September "at the conclusion of Levi's meeting with Baker" in Washington—recorded]

[Text] [Ben-'Ami] Minister Levi, after your meeting with Secretary of State Baker you said that, in fact, the administration today is willing to provide Israel with every assistance to secure its qualitative edge. Could you provide details?

[Levi] I believe you have heard the official and public statement Secretary of State Baker made in which he stressed that Israel's qualitative edge is not only a basic U.S. principle, but also that this would be guaranteed and sustained by supplying Israel all it needs to maintain this edge and prevent any threats to its security. Indeed, we went into the fine details of many topics, but the defense issue was concluded with the principle that the United States would supply Israel with all that it needs.

[Ben-'Ami] Did your demands include the Patriot?

[Levi] Yes, true, they included the Patriot.

[Ben-'Ami] Mr. Foreign Minister, you will meet the U.S. President in a few hours. What do you expect from this meeting?

[Levi] The secretary of state notified me that the President will see me. Naturally, I will attend this meeting and give it the full respect such status calls for. I hope that my conversation with the President will be as good [as the meeting with Baker], and I hope I will be able to return to Israel with good news.

[Ben-'Ami] Mr. Levi, did you discuss the issue of the \$400 million in loan guarantees for housing that Israel is requesting from the administration?

[Levi] Certainly. I raised the issue. The reply, in principle, was positive. Some of our wishes still need to be incorporated into a formula, which he suggested would be jointly formed in the near future. Then it will be implemented.

[Ben-'Ami] Are the assurances asked of us ones we are giving the United States for routine aid? Does this mean that no investments will be made beyond the Green Line?

[Levi] Well, if anyone believed that Israel would make a commitment here, that its government is quitting its political credo, as I said before, this will not happen. At the same time, I said we will provide an acceptable reply in complete understanding with him. This we will do.

[Ben-'Ami] Mr. Foreign Minister, Secretary Baker has said he would try to move forward, or look for a new move with you, to advance the peace process to solve the

Israeli-Palestinian dispute. Were the famous Baker questions asked in your meeting?

[Levi] Why go into details? All I can say is that we have reached an understanding that what cannot be achieved will not be. As for the peace process, it is an Israeli interest. It is our initiative. It includes several dangers. They must be removed. We will act in understanding, not through dictates or pressure, and certainly whoever would face the United States hand in hand with its sworn enemy today, would not profit from the process in the future.

[Ben-'Ami] Mr. Foreign Minister, thank you.

Further on Levi Comments

TA0609073790 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0600 GMT 6 Sep 90

[Telephone interview with Foreign Minister David Levi in Washington by Mikha'el Birenhack, "last night, immediately after Levi's meeting with James Baker"—recorded]

[Text] [Birenhack] Good day, Mr. Foreign Minister.

[Levi] Shalom.

[Birenhack] We understand that you met Secretary of State Baker this evening. Tomorrow he goes to the Middle East for talks on the Gulf crisis. Israel has been maintaining a low profile in relation to this crisis. Is the United States pleased with this?

[Levi] Israel is maintaining a low profile. This does not mean that it disappears or is silenced. It is taking the steps called for by the situation, while coordinating with the United States. My conversation with the secretary of state was good and fruitful. We discussed many and varied issues. The replies were positive, and we agreed to continue a direct and open channel between the two of us on all the issues.

[Birenhack] What were the issues that won positive replies?

[Levi] First, Israel's qualitative edge in the defense sphere will be made certain, and the United States will supply everything Israel will need in this area. On other issues: The United States will act to terminate the state of war against Israel by the Arab countries. Israel will be a partner to all future steps in relation to the situation in the Middle East. Israel will also win economic aid, the details of which will be discussed in the finance minister's upcoming visit to the United States.

[Birenhack] Was a framework for this aid agreed on?

[Levi] We did not go into detail. We agreed on principles. The details will be discussed by the joint teams.

[Birenhack] Was one of the principles writing off Israel's debts to the U.S. Government?

[Levi] We raised this demand, because aid to Egypt was born after the peace agreement was signed in Camp David. Israel should not be treated differently, mainly

when we are facing a mass absorption of immigrants, with all that this national task entails. Our problems were clarified. The details will be discussed with the finance minister.

[Birenhack] We hear that you will meet with President George Bush. This meeting was scheduled at the last moment.

[Levi] After our conversation—which was good and fruitful, as I said before; in which we touched upon numerous issues and which lasted longer than originally planned, some three and one-half hours; in which a deep understanding was achieved between the two of us, with the promise to maintain an open channel in the future—the secretary of state left, and returned after a few minutes and told me that the President wished to see me tomorrow morning. The exact time will be coordinated later this evening, and this will be done.

[Birenhack] What will you tell Bush?

[Levi] I will say that Israel is standing by the U.S. side in its struggle for common values. Israel is the most faithful and stable ally of the United States. We are doing all that is needed for our defense. The United States is committed to our qualitative edge. The conclusions I reached with the secretary of state will certainly be presented to the President. The very meeting and discussion of the issue in question would strengthen the ties between Israel and the United States.

[Birenhack] Foreign Minister David Levi in Washington, thank you and a good day to you.

[Levi] Thank you.

Netanyahu Gives Impressions

TA0609054690 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 6 Sep 90

[Text] Deputy Foreign Minister Binyamin Netanyahu says Israel is ready to move forward with its plan to engage in a dialogue with Palestinians in the territories who want peace. Reporter Steve Linde asked him for his impression of the talks between Foreign Minister Levi and Secretary of State Baker in Washington.

[Begin recording] [Netanyahu] I think it was a good meeting, and there is no question that Israel, I think, is finding greater understanding for its concerns in Washington these days. And I think that is probably because many of the frictions that we have had before have been dispelled by the new reality that forces certain truths onto the surface. We have seen this aggression of Saddam Husayn, we have seen the PLO line up with it unequivocally, enthusiastically. I think that has enabled us, perhaps to find a greater understanding for things that might have been not as well understood before.

[Linde] Secretary Baker said apparently that Israel should now move on with its peace plan for talks between Israel and the Palestinians.

[Netanyahu] Well, we have no objection to doing that. In fact we have been calling on the Palestinian Arabs to come up forward all along. But when we say that, of course, what we are saying is those who seek to have peace with us, not those who seek or identify with Saddam Husayn's goal of liquidating us. [end recording]

Defense Source Confirms Agreement on Patriot

TA0609063290 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0600 GMT 6 Sep 90

[Text] There has been official approval in Israel that an agreement to lease the Patriot missiles has been signed: A senior source at the defense establishment has said that while in Washington, Defense Ministry Director General David 'Ivri signed an agreement that the United States would lease to Israel several Patriot missile batteries. Today the Patriot is the only missile capable of operating against surface-to-surface missiles. The senior source added that all other reports about the supply of additional U.S. weapons to Israel are not true.

Meetings To Prepare for Levi-Shevardnadze Session

TA0209085290 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
2 Sep 90 p A1

[Report by 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Text] Israeli Foreign Ministry officials and their Soviet counterparts will hold a series of high-level meetings in Moscow for the first time since the break in relations between Israel and the Soviet Union.

The meetings will take place in two weeks at the assistant director general level in order to prepare the session between Eduard Shevardnadze and David Levi in New York at the end of the month.

One of the main issues to be discussed in the Levi-Shevardnadze session will be the arms race in the Middle East and the ways to apply the agreements between the superpowers and the NATO-Warsaw Pact accords to the countries of this region. The two men will discuss other security topics and possible political initiatives in view of the crisis in the Persian Gulf.

At the same time, Israeli Labor Party experts will be in Moscow to confer with officials in Shevardnadze's bureau. Israeli and Soviet academics will hold a conference on security issues in Moscow in two months.

Currently visiting Israel to this end is Sergey Rogov, a leading member of the United States of America and Canada Institute in Moscow and a senior adviser on strategic affairs to the Soviet parliament's security committee.

Netanyahu Encourages U.S. on Antinuclear Campaign

TA0409133490 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1300 GMT 4 Sep 90

[Excerpt] Deputy Foreign Minister Binyamin Netanyahu has said that after the Gulf crisis is over, an international effort will be needed to stop the distribution of nuclear weapons to tyrannical regimes, and suggested that the United States head this campaign. Deputy Minister Netanyahu spoke to U.S. Senator Alan Cranston, who arrived in Israel after visiting U.S. troops in the Gulf. [passage omitted]

Argentine Foreign Minister Arrives for Visit

TA0309082390 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST
in English 3 Sep 90 p 10

[Text] Argentinian Foreign Minister Dr. Domingo Felipe Cavallo arrived yesterday for an official three-day visit. A Foreign Ministry spokesman said his trip marks the first visit of an Argentinian foreign minister to this country.

The visit will focus on bilateral issues, such as economic cooperation between the two countries.

Cavallo's arrival follows a promise to boost ties between the two countries made last year by Argentinian President Carlos Menem to President Hayim Herzog in Buenos Aires. Cavallo, a 44 year-old American-trained economist, is being hosted by Foreign Minister David Levi, who will have to leave in the middle of the visit to meet with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker on Wednesday [5 September].

Deal With Iran for Three-Year Oil Supply Denied

TA0209093890 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew
2 Sep 90 p 1

[Report by Merav Arlozorov and Eldad Beck]

[Text] The French weekly magazine LE POINT reports that Israel signed a deal with Iran whereby the latter undertook to supply oil to Israel for three years. The deal will reportedly be carried out through a Dutch company. In exchange, Israel promised to help Iran with advanced military technology.

According to the French magazine, the secret agreement between the two countries was signed over a month ago, about a week before the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. LE POINT further notes that Mosad was the only intelligence service in the world that warned about Iraqi President Saddam Husayn's intention to invade Kuwait.

Shim'on Gilbo'a, director general of the Fuel Authority, reacted to the reported Israeli-Iranian deal last night by saying: "As far as I know—and being the person in charge of the country's oil procurement I should know—the entire story is totally unfounded."

Denied by Energy Director

TA0209175890 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1600 GMT 2 Sep 90

[Text] Uri Wurzberger, director general of the Energy and Infrastructure Ministry, denies the reports in the French newspaper LE POINT that Israel signed an accord with Iran to purchase oil in exchange for arms. Our energy affairs correspondent reports that Energy and Infrastructure Minister Yuval Ne'eman refused to comment.

Shamir Aide Departs for East Europe Tour

TA0209164890 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1600 GMT 2 Sep 90

[Text] Yosi Ben-Aharon, the director general of the Prime Minister's Office, has departed for Warsaw for a meeting with government officials to explain Israel's position on the Persian Gulf crisis. He will then proceed to Budapest and Prague on a similar mission. Ben-Aharon will also coordinate the visits to Israel of the prime ministers of Poland and Hungary, which are scheduled to take place in the next few months.

Soviet Union Delegation Invites Nisim to USSR

TAJ108150790 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1300 GMT 31 Aug 90

[Text] Industry and Trade Minister Moshe Nisim was invited to the Soviet Union by the Soviet trade union delegation. The invitation was extended during the delegation's visit to Israel. Our economic affairs reporter Menahem Friedman reports that the delegation toured industrial plants and that its members said there is room for expanded direct bilateral commercial ties and long-term business planning.

Sick Fund Agreement With Soviet Medical Groups

TA0209180790 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1700 GMT 2 Sep 90

[Text] The Kupat Holim Sick Fund will cooperate with medical organizations in the USSR; this was agreed on during the visit to the USSR by Nahum Fassa, the director general of the fund. It was agreed that the fund will aid the USSR in joining international organizations and in recruiting funds. The two will cooperate on the treatment of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster victims, especially the children who came here.

Our reporter Rina Matzliah points out that it was also agreed to set up a special hospital for radiation victims, which the fund will help manage. There will also be an exchange of information with the Soviets on curing alcoholics.

Absorption Minister To Visit Jews in USSR

TA0209191090 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 2 Sep 90

[Text] Absorption Minister Rabbi Yitzhaq Peretz will go to the USSR to visit Jews in various communities there in October directly after the holiday of Sukkoth. Peretz said he is traveling to the USSR as a minister in the Government of Israel but within the framework of a private visit. He will not be an official guest of the Soviet Government. Peretz expressed great satisfaction over the rate of immigration to Israel and said he was happy that tensions in the Gulf were not deterring aliyah.

Estimate Regarding Immigrants Revised Downward

TA0509111090 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST
in English 5 Sep 90 p 2

[Report by Bill Hutman]

[Text] Estimates made earlier this year that over 200,000 Russian immigrants would arrive in 1990 were exaggerated, and the actual figure will probably be closer to 150,000. Immigration and Absorption Minister Yitzaq Peretz said after a meeting with Israel Bonds leaders yesterday.

The number of Russian immigrants has fallen short of official estimates for lack of available routes between the Soviet Union and Israel, Peretz added.

Government officials began backtracking on their previous high estimates earlier this week, when immigration figures for August were released, showing that 17,500 Russian immigrants had arrived. Even this rate, unprecedented since 1951, would not bring the total to 200,000 immigrants this year.

Peretz is scheduled to go to the Soviet Union next month, but he declined to give details.

Earlier, he told Bonds leaders that even a lower number of immigrants than originally expected would pose a difficult challenge for the country, and probably require the building of ma'abarot (transit camps).

Majority of Soviet Immigrants Back Right Wing

TA0609111890 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew
6 Sep 90 p A1

[Text] Approximately 83 percent of Soviet immigrants, who have arrived in recent months, support the right-wing Israeli parties. This transpires from a survey conducted by the Hebrew University on behalf of the East Jerusalem weekly AL-BAYADIR AL-SIYASI. The poll's results show that if elections for the Knesset were held today, the right-wing parties would receive four additional mandates.

Professor Dmitriy Segal, one of the survey's formulators, said that 52.58 percent of the immigrants would vote for the Likud, 10.82 percent for the Tehiya, 7.73 percent for Moledet, and 2.06 percent for Tzomet. The KAKH

Movement, which has been banned for its racist incitement, would have received the backing of 9.28 percent of the 80,000 immigrants who have arrived in the recent immigration wave.

The survey was conducted among 1,105 Soviet immigrants in the middle of August 1990. The polling was conducted approximately two weeks after the murder of two Jewish youths in Jerusalem, at a time when the Palestinians were expressing support for Saddam Husayn.

Decline in Intifadah Activity Reported

TA3108145090 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew
31 Aug 90 p B7

[Report by Hanan Schlein]

[Text] "We are observing a period of rest. People are tired of the intifadah and are beginning to believe that another solution should be found," says an intifadah activist from East Jerusalem. Indeed, the trend indicated by this man is beginning to show in the territories; there has been a significant drop in the violence against Israeli Army troops.

According to this activist, the purpose of the intifadah had been to rouse the Palestinians, and it has been a success on this count. After two years, however, they expected to see results and when these were not even remotely forthcoming, their activities—both demonstrations and violence against security forces—began to decline. A carpenter in the al-Duhayshah refugee camp says: "People need some extraordinary event in order to take back to the streets, but even then it will be only for a few days."

Since the beginning of the year mass demonstrations in the territories took place in the wake of two events: the murder of Arab workers in Rishon Leziyyon, and the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait at the beginning of August.

Saddam Husayn's invasion led the Palestinians to believe that a solution to their problem is imminent, but as time goes by they are realizing that their support for Saddam is detrimental and that they may have to pay a price for it. Hence the decrease in the demonstrations of support for, and solidarity with, Saddam. The Palestinians realize the trouble they are in.

Radwan Abu-'Ayyash, head of the Arab Journalists Association in East Jerusalem, notes that the media is now focused on events in the Gulf and that Palestinian support for the Iraqi president has adversely affected the solidarity of the Western countries with the Palestinian people. Abu-'Ayyash today tries to depict the Palestinians as being neutral on the conflict.

According to data released by the Israeli Army spokesman, seven Palestinians have been killed by Israeli gunfire in the past three months. Seventy-nine people were shot dead during the same period last year, and 41 during the same period two years ago. Although the population attributes the drop in the casualty toll to

the change in the rules governing opening fire, "Palestinians today understand that they cannot operate against the Army and that they have failed in that sense," a nationalist activist in the Bethlehem area notes. The same man adds that people continue to throw stones and perform other routine activities of the intifadah.

The drop in violence against security forces contrasts with the rise in violence among the Palestinians themselves.

Palestinians in Judeaea, Samaria, and Gaza are looking forward to the end of the Persian Gulf crisis. It is clear to them that they need Arab or Western backing to solve the Palestinian problem.

Following the termination of the PLO-U.S. dialogue, the widening rift between the PLO and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, and the erosion of the Palestinians' status in the international community, the Palestinians now hope that a political solution to the Gulf crisis will once again raise the prestige they lost when they took a one-sided position after Saddam Husayn invaded Kuwait.

More on 'Significant Drop'

TA0509101390 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew
5 Sep 90 p A7

[Text] "Despite the fact that there has been a significant drop in violent activity in the territories and thereby also a drop in the number of Palestinian fatalities and casualties, it would be pretentious to declare that the intifadah is over," senior military sources said on the 1,000-day anniversary of the Palestinian uprising in the territories.

It was reported yesterday that the cost of maintaining the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] in the territories is some 460 million shekels annually. The intifadah has so far cost over 1 billion shekels.

According to senior officers, physical violence against soldiers and disturbances have almost disappeared. All the traffic axes are open and the IDF is in full control of the situation. "The popular uprising in the territories continues in that it developed in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and has become part of the routine life of the inhabitants of the territories. Within that framework the residents aspire to minimal contact with the Civil Administration authorities.

"The intifadah also continues on the political-diplomatic level and the issue is expected to resurface at the top of the agenda when the Persian Gulf crisis is over," the IDF says.

Sources in the General Staff praised Matan Vilna'i and Yitzhak Mordekhay, the commanders of the IDF commands, for the tough restrictions they imposed on the opening of fire in the territories and for the efforts to implement patterns of behavior and reserved reaction in battle by regular and reserve soldiers.

The below figures on the intifadah were officially supplied by the IDF and were updated as of Monday, 3 September.

Killed IDF soldiers	9
Killed Israeli civilians	11
Killed Palestinians	607
Wounded Palestinians	13,104
Wounded IDF soldiers	2,469
Wounded Israeli civilians	1,085
Palestinians murdered by:	
other Palestinians	265
Houses Demolished	272
Persons deported	58
Firebombs thrown	2,490
Grenades thrown	58
Incidents of live fire by:	
Palestinians	20
Detained Palestinians	9,847
Administrative detainees	817
Military police files:	
against soldiers	1,193
Investigatory files:	
over maltreatment of Arabs	290
Cost of intifadah to IDF	1 billion shekels

High Court Judges Reject Vanunu Appeal

TA3108071790 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0600 GMT 31 Aug 90

[Text] The ruling on Mordekhay Vanunu's appeal to the High Court of Justice will be publicized within a few days; we cannot tell you exactly when due to technical reasons which prevent its immediate publication. The only fact publicized so far is that Vanunu's appeal was rejected. The decision to publicize the ruling came in the wake of a lengthy legal struggle. Our correspondent 'Ido Shargil reports:

The Supreme Court building was swarmed by security men and policemen on two occasions since the rejection of Mordekhay Vanunu's appeal last May, when Vanunu was brought to court for a hearing on the then-unanswered question of whether permission would be given to publicize the ruling on his appeal. The only fact publicized so far is that the appeal was rejected.

The decision was made by a panel that included Justices Dov Levin and Eli'ezer Goldberg and headed by Me'ir Shamgar, president of the Supreme Court. The 70-page ruling will be publicized with several paragraphs omitted due to security reasons.

The court heard the representatives of both sides, Vanunu's defense lawyer Avigdor Feldman and Jerusalem District Attorney 'Uzi Hason, who were also present at the trial and at the hearings on the appeal. The court also heard evidence in the absence of the defense lawyer, but with his approval. The sentence will be publicized at a later date due to technical reasons.

British Foreign Secretary Holds News Conference

JN0509181790 Amman Jordan Television Network
in Arabic 1700 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd at al-Nadwah Palace this afternoon. The meeting was attended by Marwan al-Qasim, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and the British ambassador in Amman.

His Highness Crown Prince Hasan also received British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd today. They discussed the Gulf crisis in light of recent developments. The meeting was attended by Marwan al-Qasim, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and the British ambassador in Amman.

For his part, al-Qasim received the British foreign secretary in his office at the Foreign Ministry this morning. They discussed the current situation in the Gulf region. Al-Qasim reviewed for the British secretary the dimensions of the grave humanitarian problem facing Jordan as a result of the arrival of thousands of refugees from Kuwait and Iraq. The meeting was attended by the British ambassador in Amman.

The British secretary held a news conference in Amman in which he explained to world media correspondents the British position on the Gulf crisis. He declared that Jordanian-British relations are distinguished and deep-rooted, and must remain so. He indicated that Britain abides by UN resolutions and does not rule out any options to resolve the crisis, including the diplomatic option.

[Begin Hurd recording, in English] We in Britain, we in Europe, we in the Western world should not forget this question (?and its) answer: that there is the occupation of the West Bank, and of Gaza, and of East Jerusalem. There is the intifadah. There is the legitimate requirement of the Palestinian people for self-determination and the legitimate requirement of the people of Israel for security. Another matter which has come up very strongly in my discussions this morning—it concerns the humanitarian question of refugees. No doubt in my mind that the Government of Jordan has had to carry sudden, extreme burdens, which have resulted in very large numbers—Arabs, Asians, other nationalities—leaving Iraq and coming into Jordan on their way to their own country. I think it is entirely right that the United Kingdom, the European Community, Red Cross, United Nations should bestir themselves to take active and large-scale measures to relieve this humanitarian problem. [end recording]

Hurd expressed the hope that the Helsinki summit between U.S. and Soviet leaders will result in what may lead to a resolution to the Gulf crisis. He stated that Jordan is bearing a great burden by hosting thousands of refugees of various nationalities from Iraq and Kuwait.

Further on Statements

JN0609061790 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English
6-7 Sep 90 p 1

[Text] Amman—British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd hinted Wednesday that his government was not excluding the possibility of a military conflict with Iraq if Baghdad does not withdraw from Kuwait and agree to the reinstatement of the toppled Emiri regime of Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah.

"We are not excluding other options" if "economic and diplomatic pressure" on Iraq fails to bring about desired results, Hurd told a press conference, which was boycotted by most Jordanian journalists working for the local press in protest against the British approach.

Hurd, who held talks with His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan and Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim earlier, renewed calls for tighter economic and political sanctions against Iraq. "A reasonable chance (for a diplomatic solution) only exists if sanctions are fully observed, including those in the past had close relations with Iraq make it clear that...priority must be the reversing of the aggression," he asserted. [sentence, ellipses as published]

According to Hurd, while Jordan and Britain shared the same objectives and "where our analysis differs is how this withdrawal of Iraqi troops, how the restoration of the (emiri) government, is to be achieved." But, "on the objective, there is no difference between His Majesty's government here and our government in Britain," he said.

He indicated that the West had not been quite satisfied with Jordan's "performance" in adhering to economic sanctions against Iraq called for by the U.N. "Once that is actually happening, then Jordan is entitled to understanding and help from the international community and work on identifying that help is actually underway in New York at the present time," he said.

Hurd admitted that there had been what he termed "a temporary suspension" of some military items bound for Jordan. Echoing a fear heard in American and British circles he said, "military equipment should be clearly identified and intended for Jordan...distinction...to be made and to enable the requirements of the Jordanian Armed Forces, which are clearly identified, to be met." [sentence, ellipses as published]

Stressing the need for Jordan to strictly comply with the U.N.-imposed economic sanctions against Iraq, the foreign secretary told reporters that he was still reasonably hopeful that a solution of the Gulf crisis can be reached without further bloodshed, "by combination of diplomatic pressures economic pressures—very important, crucially important—and the increasing realisation by Saddam Husayn that he is going to lose, that he is going to have to leave Kuwait. I believe this accumulation of pressures has a reasonable chance of success."

Hurd said he believed that no immediate breakthrough could be expected from next week's summit in Helsinki but that the continued "close conversation" between the U.S. and the USSR would be an important element in ending "aggression."

Commenting on the inclusion of food and medicines in the economic embargo, Hurd said that while the Security Council sanctions resolution excluded medicine and "speaks of food for humanitarian reasons," it was up to the members of the Security Council to decide when food was needed for humanitarian reasons.

Hurd called a proposal by Saddam Husayn for a withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait simultaneously with Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories a "smoke screen for his aggression."

Hurd began the press conference by asserting that Saddam had diverted the world's attention from the Palestinian problem and that now a just solution had been "postponed, retarded, made less likely."

Hurd was asked why it had taken the U.S. and Britain less than a week to respond to Saudi Arabia's request for help against Iraq while for 23 years the West had been incapable of effectively addressing the Arab-Israeli issue.

The two issues of "occupation," the foreign secretary insisted, were unrelated. "Only the aggressor (Iraq) is making a link," Hurd said.

Journalists Boycott

JN0609063190 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English
6-7 Sep 90 p 1

[Text] Amman—About 40 Jordanian journalists boycotted British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd's press conference Wednesday after reading out a prepared statement in which they deplored his government's stand in the Gulf crisis and said they saw present British policy in the region as "an extension of the old British empire's colonial approach."

In a statement addressed to Hurd and read aloud before the press conference began Salim al-Ma'ani, a representative of the Jordanian group, told Hurd that the walkout was being staged to protest the "aggressive policy" of the British government towards the Arab states.

"We wished that your government had taken such a stand towards Israel's occupation of the West Bank, Gaza Strip, South Lebanon and the Golan Heights," al-Ma'ani told Hurd.

As al-Ma'ani spoke, an aide to Hurd frequently tried to interrupt saying "thank you, thank you." The Jordanian journalist, however, had read his statement in full when the group walked out.

"Jordanian journalists will refrain from dealing with you as long as your stand is against justice and the aspirations of the Arab people," al-Ma'ani told the British minister.

In a separate two-page letter presented to Hurd just before the press conference, the group of Jordanian journalists said they felt Jordan and other Arab countries were being subjected to "an economic blockade, political harassment and blackmail" as well as a "smearing campaign, particularly by the British media."

The decision to stage a walkout, the letter said, was in the spirit of unity and a reflection of a popular Jordanian stand which was "never as united as it is today."

Hurd was also reminded in the letter that the people of Jordan "remember very well that it was Britain and France which divided the region into mini-states and handed over Palestine on a platter to the Israelis."

Hurd subsequently began his press conference by saying that it was Saddam Husayn's actions in the Gulf which had shifted world attention from the Palestinian question.

"One sad consequence of this affair is that world attention is no longer focused on the Palestinian problem," Hurd told the remaining members of the mainly international journalists.

Asked if he saw the walkout as an indication of anti-British sentiment in Jordan, Hurd said, "I think its symbolic of a rather limited understanding of the purposes of a press conference or of the free press."

The journalists concluded their letter by saying they regretted that Britain's long experience in the Middle East had been "unable to help you formulate an understanding of the aspirations of the Arab Nation for unity and better life or your government has not allowed it to help you formulate such an understanding."

Editorial Explains Reasons

JN0609092890 Amman AL-RAY in Arabic
6 Sep 90 pp 1, 16

[Editorial: "Hurd, Whom We Did Not Listen To"]

[Text] British Foreign Secretary Mr. Douglas Hurd missed the mark when he chose the Jordanian capital to hold his press conference and try to give us lessons on morals, humanity, and international principles and conventions. We, as well as our people and millions of Arab and Muslim peoples, know that Britain has not given any weight to morals, humanity, and international principles and conventions in the issue of the Gulf crisis, and neither has it done so with its position over the Palestine question, which is one of its moral and humanitarian "achievements" in the Arab world.

It appears that Britain views the Gulf crisis as the magic medicine that can put life back into the old empire and restore to the old lion its teeth and claws. This empire has the illusion that the U.S. colonialism will make this miracle—to become young again—come true if it starts a war against Iraq and its Arab and Islamic nations, and that what Britain will gain from this war will make it jump ahead in the European line after it was pushed to

the back by France and Germany. Therefore, this U.S.-British alliance is in fact an alliance against Europe, and this British enthusiasm for aggression against the Gulf with U.S. troops, hired with "Arab" money, is the remaining hope for Britain to stay the first in Europe, even under comprehensive U.S. hegemony.

We had hoped that Hurd would not have bothered to talk about values, principles, and morals. When his prime minister sees no value in the lives of Westerners in Iraq, then, naturally, she sees no value in any moral issue. Her objective is to end her life with a major defeat, and this is certain, or with a major victory, which we do not think is possible in view of her racist behavior and dealing with the Gulf crisis.

The Jordanian media have left the foreign newspapers, radio stations, news agencies, and television networks to listen to Mr. Hurd. The Jordanian media left the press conference to make the point that Britain has no right to teach us lessons in morals, humanity, and international legitimacy; and that we have the right to turn our backs to every racist, barbarian, and rancorous gesture coming from Mrs. Thatcher and Mr. Hurd against everything Arab, everything Islamic, and everything civilized.

Thirty-four years after the defeat of the tripartite aggression on the banks of the Suez canal have not made the Arabs, the Muslims, or the British forget things. It looks as if Mrs. Thatcher and her foreign secretary are in for an end similar to that of Mr. Eden, who was thrown into the dustbin of history by events.

O honorable British minister, Iraq is not the Falkland Islands and the millions of Arabs are waiting for the moment to settle accounts with all enemies who have gone too far in holding them in contempt and disregarded them in their constant endeavor to keep us a humiliated, ignorant, and needy nation.

We hope the scores of Arab officials shivering now will not make you believe that they have any mandate from this nation because you, and those people, will be the first to be defeated in that holy war [harb muqaddasah] which is about to begin now to usher the beginning of this nation's awakening, which was due long ago but which will come tempestuous and strong with no shake in the hand or heart. Then, only those who are faithful to this homeland with their blood, toil, resolve, and beautiful hatred will remain on its soil.

Hurd Departs

JN0509182190 Amman Jordan Television Network
in Arabic 1700 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd has left Amman following a short working visit to Jordan, during which he met with His Majesty King Husayn, his highness the regent, and a number of officials.

King Husayn Leaves for Baghdad on 'Working Visit'

JN0509172190 Amman Jordan Television Network
in Arabic 1703 GMT 3 Sep 90

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn left for Baghdad this evening on a working visit to the Republic of Iraq. His majesty was seen off by Crown Prince Hasan, the regent; His Highness Prince Faysal Ibn-al-Husayn; His Highness Prince 'Ali Ibn-al-Husayn; speakers of both Houses of parliament; the deputy prime minister and interior minister; other ministers; the chief of staff; and the Iraqi ambassador.

His majesty is accompanied by the prime minister, the chief chamberlain of the Royal Court, his majesty's political adviser, and the deputy prime minister and foreign minister.

Husayn's Efforts Show Nation's 'Distinct Role'

JN0409194990 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
4 Sep 90 p 1, 14

[Editorial: "Distinguished Jordanian Role To Contain Crisis"]

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn's current intensive contacts in several European capitals and his meeting with the UN Secretary General to a large extent portray the distinct role played by Jordan during this historical stage in the life of our nation and Arab region.

What adds significance to this role and gives it a vital dimension is the media reporting on His Majesty King Husayn's intention to pay a quick visit to Moscow prior to the scheduled summit meeting between U.S. President George Bush and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in the Finnish capital, Helsinki, in less than a week.

Today, as we restate our pride in His Majesty King Husayn's effort abroad, we do not doubt that the war advocates among some Arab brothers will soon realize that this massive Jordanian effort serves peace, and therefore, the interests of their people which would be exposed to the most severe horrors if war broke out.

Therefore, we call for Arab unification behind His Majesty King Husayn's sincere endeavor. We also call on all the brothers to provide the necessary ethical and political support to champion the Arab solution called by Jordan, since several countries including the Soviet Union call for an end to the escalation and full opportunity for an Arab solution.

In view of all this, if the Soviet position and the Jordanian call for a political arab solution to the Gulf crisis were coupled and supported by a unified Arab position, then we would be able to completely prevent a terrible explosion. This is a necessary prelude to reaching a negotiated settlement within the Arab household in a manner that preserves everyone's rights, without war threats and without the logic of warships.

Iraqi Airways Plane With 157 Westerners Arrives

JN0509172790 Amman Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] An Iraqi Airways plane arrived in Amman today carrying 157 Western women and children.

Western diplomats said that the passengers included 62 French, 23 British, and unspecified numbers of Americans, Italians, Belgians, Greeks, and Australians.

About 1000 Western women and children have already left Iraq since President Saddam Husayn said eight days ago they could go.

Kuwaiti Embassy Family Members Leave for Japan

OW0309122090 Tokyo KYODO in English
1202 GMT 3 Sep 90

[Text] Amman, Sept. 3 KYODO—Twelve Japanese women and children who were held captive in Iraq have left the Jordanian capital of Amman for Tokyo, Japanese Embassy officials said.

The eight women and four children are dependents of Japanese Embassy personnel who were stationed in Kuwait before Iraq invaded the oil-rich country on August 2. The group will fly to Frankfurt, West Germany, before returning to Japan on Tuesday afternoon, the officials said.

Local Firm Organizes Amman-Kuwait Bus Trips

JN0309094490 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
3 Sep 90 p 1

[Text] AL-DUSTUR—A private tourist transportation company has organized direct Amman-Kuwait bus trips, the first since the beginning of the recent Gulf events.

A pullman bus will leave Amman directly for Kuwait carrying 50 passengers, comprising mainly Jordanians working in Kuwait.

Company sources added that the first trip took place last Thursday and included Jordanians and a few others of various nationalities working in Kuwait.

Editor Considers Shevardnadze's Conference Proposal

JN0509100890 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
5 Sep 90 pp 1, 13

["A Word" column by the editor: "Peace Is Indivisible"]

[Text] The proposal made by Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze at an international seminar in Vladivostok yesterday calling for an international conference on the Middle East is significant and deserves careful consideration.

If we ignore the tough language used against Iraq for the way it handled the Kuwait issue; language which we believe lacks all moral and political justifications—we

have not heard such language being used against Israel, for instance, when it occupied Arab territories or Turkey when it occupied Cyprus—we will find that the Soviet minister's proposal conveys definite signals which deserve every encouragement. In fact, the proposal adopts an idea which we in Jordan, the PLO, and most Arab states have often championed; namely, convening an international conference on the Middle East conflict, meaning of course the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The new thing in Shevardnadze's proposal is that the international conference should also discuss the Gulf crisis. This is where the Soviet minister's thinking agrees with what his majesty has often proposed. Even Baghdad made a similar proposal when it said there can be no double standards on the subject of the different occupations in the Middle East on which the UN Security Council passed resolutions which have remained unimplemented. The Security Council itself cannot feel reassured until it tackles all these occupations by the same logic and method.

What makes Shevardnadze's proposal significant at this time is that it has come only a few days before the summit between Presidents Gorbachev and Bush in Helsinki on Sunday.

Will the idea of an international conference tackling all crises in the Middle East be the center of discussion between the two presidents? Will Gorbachev, if ever he presents the idea, succeed in persuading Bush to be fair and rational, viewing the Palestine question as seriously as he does the Kuwait problem?

We hope that this would be the case. The region is in a state of agitation and serious confrontation, and peace cannot be achieved by installments. Tackling the Gulf problem without a radical and just solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict will not achieve the desired peace.

Paper Assails Thatcher's 'Crusade' Against Iraq

JN0509054990 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English
5 Sep 90 p 4

[Editorial: "Hurds, Nooses and All"]

[Text] In an interview with BBC Radio broadcast Sunday night, the British foreign secretary, Douglas Hurd, said his visit to Yemen and Jordan among other Gulf countries was intended at tightening the noose around Iraq, in an effort to strangle the "aggressor" completely.

Mr. Hurd was a career diplomat before he became a politician and then Britain's chief diplomat. Judging by what he had to say there, it seems he has learned very little about the proper use of the diplomatic language and the historical lessons that should have guided his experience.

Hurd's all-too-well-known outspokenness may be a factor in what he told his BBC interviewer. But it cannot be the whole story. The fact of the matter is that Hurd has been trying to keep up with his war-mongering prime

minister, who has been waging an unjustifiable crusade against Iraq, and he can hardly conjure up enough provocative words and thoughts to please her.

This is a problem for the two to sort out between them. What we should be concerned about here is the question of why Thatcher's Britain is attempting to outbid and upstage everybody in its unbelievable hostility towards Saddam Husayn personally and Iraq as a country. Is it because Thatcher is the self-appointed champion of human rights and international law? Or is it because Britain stands to lose her vital interests in the area if Iraq gets away with its invasion of Kuwait unpunished? Or are there other reasons for the "iron lady" to declare a holy war against the Iraqi president?

The Israelis have been occupying Arab territories for 23 years now. On a number of occasions, we have heard Thatcher and government blast Israel for its continued occupation and inhumane treatment of Palestinians there. But we have never heard Thatcher call for the trial of Yitzhak Shamir as an international criminal, even though the Israeli prime minister is still on the "wanted list" in Britain for his leading role in blowing up the King David Hotel in Jerusalem and the killing of tens of British servicemen in the 1948 blast. So, to say that by trying Saddam Husayn for crimes against humanity and by blockading Iraq for its invasion of Kuwait, and leaving Israel and Shamir alone for the moment, Thatcher is upholding international law is hypocritical at best. This is the kind of Western double standards which not only Saddam is fighting for, but every self-respecting Arab as well.

To answer the second question, experts do need to assess how British interests will be affected in the Gulf area if Iraq is not "punished for its aggression." Our guess is, though, that Britain would do much better if it tried to find a political settlement with which all can be satisfied, and her interests will be all the much safer if Thatcher's wisdom were commensurate with her age and political acumen proportionate to her length of term in office.

But if we are looking for other reasons why Mrs. T is beating the drums of war, let us just go back a moment in history to see what a renowned British expert on the Middle East, Ambassador Anthony Parsons, had to say about his government's attitude towards the Gulf crisis. In creating Kuwait and marking other borders for the Arabs, he told the Washington Post recently, "we protected our strategic interests rather successfully, but in doing so we didn't worry too much about people living there. We created a situation where people felt they had been wronged." The veteran diplomat, who spent 30 years in the Middle East, went on: "In the Iraqi subconscious, Kuwait is part of al-Basrah province, and the bloody British took it away from them. Likewise, it is also in the subconscious of British leaders that Kuwait is part of Iraq, that Britain made the division and that it is Britain's moral responsibility to defend its decisions, wrong and right, especially when these decisions serve its strategic interests." So much for Thatcher's rationale on

the need to fight Saddam Husayn and his country. It does not hold water at all. As to Douglas Hurd, and the reason he gives for coming here, our advice is simple and clear: Don't tell us to tighten the noose around Iraq. Our people, who will be asked by your prime minister to do that, are against their will already shouldering the heavy burden of imposing sanctions against their Iraqi brothers and sisters and children. And we do not need imperialist mentalities to tell us what to do anyway.

When the House of Commons opens its debate on the Gulf Thursday, Mr. Hurd will hear loud cries from fellow MPs that Thatcher is going too far in her crusade against Iraq. Let us just tell him, a day earlier, that such cries can be heard in the minds and hearts of the Jordanian and Arab people at large.

Editorial Opposes Air Blockade on Iraq

JN0509075790 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic
4 Sep 90 pp 1, 18

[Editorial: "No to an Air Blockade on Iraq"]

[Text] A few days ago, threats to impose an air blockade on Iraq were stepped up. The adventurers who are lying in wait for the Arab nation have begun to insinuate that they are considering ways to enforce such a blockade although a decision in this regard has not so far been passed by the UN Security Council.

It might be useful to recall that confronting planes bound for Iraq in international air corridors or closing territorial airspace before such planes would be an act of organized air piracy no less dangerous than hijacking aircraft. Such acts would place air transport in an unprecedented predicament. It goes without saying that the imposition of an air blockade on Iraq might be confronted by a boycott of the planes of the countries involved in the enforcement of such a blockade once these planes land at numerous Arab airports. As a matter of fact, these planes might be exposed to unaccounted for dangers. At any rate, the imposition of such a blockade might raise the cost of air transport in the region in an unprecedented manner. It might also undermine air safety in other parts of the world.

Those who are talking about the imposition of such a blockade actually seek to escalate the Gulf crisis and aim to expedite its explosion. It goes without saying that this reveals the uncivilized behavior of those advocating such a sinister approach. Consequently, all those concerned with air safety must work to preclude the legitimization of organized air piracy and to firmly confront those who are attempting to impose an air blockade on Iraq. Likewise, they must strive to prevent the international community from becoming embroiled in such an adventure.

It is worth noting that the terrorist acts of plane hijacking condemned by the international community are nowadays taking a refined form through the attempts to impose an air blockade on Iraq advocated by the enemies of peace. It is unreasonable for this community to

take part in such terrorism, which is more dangerous than the terrorism that it condemned.

It has taken many long years and immense efforts to bring air transport to this high level of safety. Air transport traditions have been laid as a result of all this, and they should not be wasted to satisfy the malicious whims plaguing the enemies of Iraq.

The language of reason is the only language which can safeguard for mankind its accomplishments in the field of aviation and other domains. All parties must use this language. They must voice their loud and clear rejection of air piracy and of attempts to impose an air blockade on Iraq.

Paper Assails Arab League Council Cairo Meeting

*JN0109115290 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
1 Sep 90 pp 1, 19*

[Editorial: "Out of Concern For the Arab League"]

[Text] We are with the Arab League; it is our big house to which we contributed and worked to establish the tradition of pan-Arab dialogue within it. We are for maintaining the Arab League. We are not alarmed by the huge rift that has been inflicted on it. We wanted it to be an Arab body capable of offering all wise solutions to our problems.

However, we are not for the Arab League turning into a chamber annexed to the White House from which it receives orders and instructions. It was for this reason that we, along with other brothers who refused to join the new U.S.-Israeli alliance, did not attend [the Arab League Council meeting in Cairo]. This was in pursuance of our pan-Arab principles rejecting alliances—a stand we adopted on the Baghdad Pact and the Eisenhower plan several decades ago.

If the role of the Arab League and the gentlemen attending its current meetings is confined to submissive and parrot-like reiteration of the instructions of Mr. Bush and Mrs. Thatcher regarding the Gulf crisis, or the crisis of the entire Arab region, and to falsely legitimize their option of fighting Iraq under the U.S. flag, we will leave this "honor" to them, voluntarily and honorably.

We are deeply grieved that our respectable Arab League has come under the control of the United States and its allies. When the League frees itself from this shackle and hegemony, and returns to us from its current tragic alienation with an overt and covert real Arab affiliation, only then will we be able to say that we have left behind regional policies and interests and opted for pan-Arab policies, without which the Arab League cannot exist or perform its duties properly. The Arab league cannot do so if it is controlled by any axis, so how if this axis has placed itself at the disposal of the foreigner?

The solution they are offering Iraq is the same solution the states of crusading conspiracy are trying to impose on Iraq and the entire Arab nation.

Although the states that did not attend the Cairo meeting have known and declared remarks about the way Iraq has tackled the Kuwait problem, the issue, as everyone knows—particularly the gentlemen meeting in Cairo—cannot be solved by merely addressing appeals to Iraq urging an immediate, unconditional withdrawal and the restoration of the former government.

They know the issue is much more complicated than that and that it has known historical roots. They also know that the explosion did not come from a vacuum and that there are legitimate Iraqi demands which must be studied and discussed before making appeals for withdrawal.

The biggest mistake committed by those reiterating the U.S. demands from Iraq from under the Arab League banner is that they, like their American allies, bypass the causes of the crisis to its results. This over-simplified course does not and will not constitute a solution to the crisis. On the other hand, we find that the bloc seeking a solution within the Arab framework want a solution that is both applicable and livable and deals with both the causes and results of the crisis—a solution that takes into consideration the legitimate rights of all parties. This is the only realistic, logical, and applicable solution.

Therefore, our disagreement with the bloc that has opted for going to Cairo is over moves and means to resolve the crisis. When they proceed from realistic ground that takes into account all dimensions of the crisis, and when they—like us—move on the basis of eagerness about the future of the Arab League and the Arab nation's right to independence and to absolute control over its resources, then they will find us with them in the same trench under the banner of the Arab league, tackling our problems with a spirit of brotherhood no matter how volatile and exacerbated they become, proceeding from the unity of objectives and destiny.

Rally Participants Urge Holy War Against U.S.

*JN0109080890 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English
1 Sep 90 p 5*

[Text] Al-Mahatta—The Jordanian capital Friday witnessed the fiercest outburst yet of anti-American sentiments fuelled by Washington's military deployment in the Gulf with calls on Iraqi President Saddam Husayn to declare a holy war against the United States and Israel.

During the largest political rally held to date in the capital, about 15,000 people expressed their strong opposition to foreign intervention in the region and their willingness to fight alongside Iraq if threatened by Western military forces.

During the rally, organized by the Muslim Brotherhood, participants chanted anti-American slogans and burned the American flag in this working class suburb of Amman.

In an emotionally charged atmosphere further highlighted by the presence of thousands of women, leaders of the Brotherhood, which holds 22 seats in the 80-member Lower

House of Parliament, reiterated calls made by Islamic leaders in Jordan over the last four weeks on Muslims of the world to unite against the "invasion of the holy land by non-Muslim Western troops."

Thousands of scarved women and children in green headbands participated in the rally and echoed the call of their leaders to Saddam to "declare a holy war." The holy war, speakers said, "would of course include Israel as well as enemies of Islam."

Speakers, who included fiery Lower House Deputy Shaykh 'Abd-al-Mun'im Abu-Zant and Brotherhood spokesman Ziyad Abu-Ghunimah, called for an immediate withdrawal of all foreign troops from the region,

Abu-Zant, a maverick member of the Brotherhood, called the U.N. Security council a "council of destruction" for endorsing international sanctions against Iraq.

With harshly worded slogans against what they described as "occupation troops" in Saudi Arabia which houses Mecca and al-Madinah, speakers questioned the record of the U.N. in efforts to implement Security Council resolutions on the Palestinian problem and asked what the world body had done to end the Arab-Israeli conflict. Speakers also called on the Jordanian government to arm all Jordanians in preparation against any attack by outside forces.

Bitter attacks against the U.S. and the burning of American, Israeli and sometimes British flags have become more frequent as anti-foreign-intervention and pro-Iraq rallies have continued to draw large crowds in Jordan in recent weeks.

Although Friday's rally was attended by over 15,000 people, it was not clear whether all of them were direct supporters of the Muslim Brotherhood as a political group or were motivated by the pan-Arab sentiments sparked by Iraq's open defiance of the United States and the West. During several past rallies, it appeared that over half the attendance participants espoused Arab nationalistic sentiments than any outright support for the Muslim Brotherhood.

The Brotherhood has also participated in rallies organised by other blocs such as the Ba'athists and leftist-oriented groups but always been careful to emphasise that Brotherhood members were participating in their individual capacity rather than as a political group.

Rallies Mark Palestinian Uprising Anniversary
JN0409110090 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English
4 Sep 90 p 1

[Text] Amman—Pan-Arab and leftist political groups successfully rekindled the spirit of the intifada Monday night as thousands marked 1,000 days of the revolt and paid homage to over 1,000 martyrs, 80,000 imprisoned, and 80,000 wounded by the Israeli occupation forces since it began.

In an emotion-charged atmosphere, over 10,000 people cheered leftist and pan-Arab leaders in marking the occasion at the Roman Amphitheatre in downtown Amman, making it the largest intifada rally in Jordan since the right of return march drew over 30,000 people last June.

An intifada rally organised by the newly founded Al Umma party drew a crowd of about 800 people on the other side of town at a college playground in the Wadi al-Sir district.

At both rallies, Israel, the United States and Britain were condemned for their role in "supporting and instigating oppressive, repressive and unjust policies in the region."

Thousands of mostly young people cheered and frequently interrupted the eight speakers who addressed the audience which filled the amphitheatre to the brim.

Palestinian, Jordanian and Iraqi flags were raised by the crowd, Posters of Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat were also held aloft.

Speakers emphasised the importance of Arab unity in resolving the Palestinian problem.

"Like a cry for freedom, like a spark of light in a dark night, (Iraqi President) Saddam (Husayn) has given a new hope for the victory of the intifada for which over a thousand martyrs have fallen on this one thousandth day of our glorious uprising," one speaker told the crowd.

For the first time since pro-Iraqi and anti-American and anti-Western rallies began a little less than a month ago in the aftermath of the American military deployment in the Gulf, the intifada, possibly the most emotional issue for Palestinians and Jordanians alike, took its rightful slot in the political scene with Monday's event, observers said.

Lower House deputies Faris al-Nabulsi and Bassam Haddadin took the opportunity to reinforce their pan-Arab stance with their constituencies.

"We may be facing the most difficult test in our modern history," warned al-Nabulsi. "But this is our chance to rid the region of the evils of imperialist powers once and for all."

Muhammad Qabit, a Palestinian expelled by the Israeli occupation authorities, asked the roaring crowd where the "humanitarian world" was when he and hundreds of Palestinians were expelled from Palestine.

Haddadin called for an "end of the reign of imperialist and Zionist spies" in the Arab World as the crowd answered with chants of "Long live our Arab Nation."

'Azmi al-Khawaja the popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), told the audience that whatever the cost "the intifada, of which we in Jordan are an integral part, must continue until liberation."

"We have not forgotten the last time we were bombed by the Americans," Intisar al-Wazir (Umm Jihad) told the

crowd, referring to American bombardment of the mountains of Lebanon in 1982.

"We have grown accustomed to defending our homeland from foreign aggressors and fighting to liberate those parts that they conquer. But has the West not grown tired of taking what is not theirs to take?" asked Umm Jihad, widow of Khalil al-Wazir and one of the over 30 women serving in the Palestine National Council (PNC).

The Al Umma party rally, which was organized by its founder, Deputy Ahmad 'Uwaydi al-'Abadi, was marked by posters of His Majesty King Husayn and President Saddam Husayn and speeches which dealt mostly with the Gulf crisis and internal Jordanian politics.

Bedouin Tribes Express Pro-Saudi Sentiments

JN0309142590

[Editorial report] Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic on 1, 2, and 3 September 1990 publishes on its inside pages advertisements sponsored by different Jordanian bedouin tribes which are markedly pro-Saudi. The ads, which are similar in content to one another, appear to go against the general popular trend in Jordan, which is supportive of Iraq and antagonistic toward Saudi Arabia and its sponsorship of foreign forces on Arab soil.

Although the advertisements essentially express "absolute loyalty and support" for King Husayn and Crown Prince Hasan, whose photographs appear at the top of the ads, they refer to Saudi Arabia as their "big sister" who adopts "honorable positions toward the Arabs, especially Jordan and the valiant Palestinian intifadah." In the text of the advertisements, the tribes pray that the king will succeed in healing the Arab rift and "consolidating the relations of brotherhood with the sisterly Arab states, especially fraternal Saudi Arabia." There have so far been advertisements by the al-Huwaytat tribes, the al-Majali tribes, and the Bani-'Atiyah tribes. Unlike almost all the other advertisements filling the pages of the newspaper, these ones fail to carry photographs of Iraqi President Saddam Husayn or contain any such phrases as "foreign occupation," "agents of imperialism," or "Iraq's heroic pan-Arab position."

Southern Bedouins Respond to Pro-Saudi Ad

JN0509105390

[Editorial report] Amman AL-RA'Y and AL-DUSTUR in Arabic on 5 September publish on their backpages an advertisement sponsored by the "Popular Committee in Support of Iraq" in Ma'an, claiming to speak on behalf of Jordan's southern bedouins; that is, the al-Huwaytat tribes. The ad, which carries photographs of King Husayn and Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, implicitly responds to an ad sponsored by the al-Huwaytat tribes in the 1 September issue of AL-RA'Y, which referred to Saudi Arabia as the "big sister whose stand and support for Arab brothers, including the Jordanian people and the valiant Palestinian intifadah will not be forgotten."

The responsive ad says: "We reject the defeatist stands which are based on self-interest and declare to our enlightened and inspired leadership that this is the attitude of all free people in the southern desert."

Army 'Source' Cited on 3 Sep Plane Crash

JN0409071990 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
4 Sep 90 p 1

[Text] Amman, PETRA—A responsible source at the Armed Forces General Command has stated that at 1230 yesterday a Jordanian Royal Air Force plane crashed while on a regular training mission. The crash resulted in the destruction of the plane and the martyrdom of its pilot, Lieutenant Thabit 'Isa 'Atallah al-Tarawinah.

'Islamic Right Party' Declared; Issues Statement

JN0309130990 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic
3 Sep 90 Second Edition p 4

[Excerpt] The Islamic Right Party [hizb al-haqq al-islami] has issued its first statement declaring the birth of the party as the good and natural outcome of the tangible change witnessed by Jordan since the restoration of parliamentary life.

The statement says that the declaration of the birth of the party is neither a reaction to a certain event nor the outcome of current circumstances experienced by the region. The statement says the party will not be a competitor or an alternative for any movement working for Islam, but emerged as the result of the conviction of the party founders that the nation is in need of such a party and its principles. [passage omitted]

Minister Explains Ration Card System, Prices

JN0109171590 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic
1450 GMT 1 Sep 90

[Text] Amman, 1 Sep 90 (PETRA)—Minister of Supply Ibrahim Ayyub has announced that subsidized goods are being rationed and sold by coupon as of today.

He told a news conference at the Ministry today the supply situation in the country is good and comfortable, despite a notable rise in consumption and an unusual run on our reserve stocks due to urgent circumstances created by the daily influx of thousands from Iraq and Kuwait transiting the kingdom en route to their home countries.

He stressed that the Ministry of Supply is replenishing its stock of foodstuffs according to schedule, pointing out that the government has consistently made such staples as flour, sugar, rice, and powdered milk available at subsidized prices, costing the government huge sums that have mounted over the years given rising consumption and the fall in the dinar exchange rate since late 1988, in addition to the increased cost of these articles at the source.

The minister said the aim of the subsidy program is to cushion the low income groups. He pointed out that previously the better off segment of the society had benefited most from the subsidies which mostly went to the wrong purposes. A good part of subsidized goods, he added, had found their way to neighboring markets where their counterparts sold at far higher prices.

Ayyub recalled a commitment by the government in its policy statement to parliament that only low income groups should benefit from subsidies, emphasizing that issuing ration cards and coupons at official centers is the ideal way of averting market bottlenecks.

He explained that anyone wishing to buy greater amounts with the capacity to do so, can buy the goods from the market at the fixed unsubsidized price—the free market price—which is the cost of buying, transporting, storing, distributing, and selling these goods.

He said that an integrated system for ration cards has been prepared and will be applied starting today. He pointed out that every Jordanian family can obtain the ration card gratis by producing a valid family census document, or a temporary travel document for Gaza Strip citizens residing in Jordan. He said 683 centers have been designated for distributing ration cards and coupons in all parts of the Kingdom; the locations of these centers will be announced in the local newspapers

in detail. They will be operating for one whole month as of today. After that, the ration cards will be distributed permanently and on a regular basis from the Ministry of Supply's offices and departments, and other permanent offices specified by the minister of supply in the governorates and districts of the Kingdom.

He pointed out that the ration card is restricted to three items, which are sugar, rice, and powdered milk. He explained that the amount for every individual has been set, based upon the real consumption of an average family, at 1.5 kilograms of sugar and 1.5 kilograms of rice a month, and one kilogram of powdered milk every six months.

He pointed out that after obtaining the ration card, one can get coupons which are equivalent to the set consumption value for every family in accordance with the number of members registered on the card. The allocations for each family are distributed the first time round for a period of four months starting today until the end of the current year upon presentation of the ration card. He explained that the price of subsidized goods will be 150 fils for one kilogram each of sugar and rice and 1,000 fils for a kilogram of powdered milk. The prices of the non-subsidized goods will be 360 fils for one kilogram of sugar, 300 fils for one kilogram of rice, and 1,600 fils for one kilogram of powdered milk.

Iran-Based Group Calls For Saddam's Overthrow

NC0509104090 (Clandestine) Voice of the Oppressed
in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] The Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq issued a statement in Tehran yesterday calling on the Muslim people of Iraq to overthrow Iraq's dictator Saddam.

The statement, issued after an emergency meeting of the council under Hojjat ol-Eslam Muhammad Baqir al-Hakim, said that the Iraqi people are not permitted to express their opinion on the decisions made by Saddam. Therefore, they must act to overthrow him.

The statement explained that the only solution in the region lies in the overthrow of this regime and the establishment of a new regime based on the justice of God and the right of the Iraqi people to self-determination.

The statement denounced the foreign military presence in the region and called for the withdrawal of foreign forces. The statement explained that the mobilization of the Iraqi people must also be used to confront the plots hatched by the foreign forces in the region. Finally, the statement rejected the current campaign to starve the Iraqi people.

Fadlallah on American Plans for Gulf Region

NC0509181690 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain
in Arabic to Lebanon 1630 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] Allamah Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah has said: Search for politics behind the scenes and not in the al-Ramlah al-Baydah, the Summer Land [Lebanese areas], or anywhere else. He believes that the military has no role in Lebanon because, as he puts it, a military institution which has no weapons, independent decision-making, or unity and which is surrounded by internal as well as external restrictions cannot rule the country.

Fadlallah warned that there is an established American plan to change the political reality of the region. He expects the Americans to reorganize the situation in the Gulf region.

Fadlallah referred to a concealed international conflict which is reflected in the confused European steps vis-a-vis the American and Soviet policies. He expressed his suspicions about claims that the real goal is to topple the Iraqi regime. He said that regime rendered a great service to the West by standing in the way of the Iranian Islamic revolution and whose actions turned the Arab-Israeli conflict into an inter-Arab one.

Fadlallah ruled out an Israeli devastation of Jordan, saying that Jordan is still one of the bases on which the American policy for the region rests.

Egyptian Call for Arab League Meeting Approved

NC0509141290 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1300 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] Lebanon has informed the Arab League that it approves Egypt's call for holding an extraordinary session of the Arab League's Council in Cairo on 10 September.

Ambassador Briefs Al-Huss on Kuwait Situation

NC0509120790 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1030 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] Prime Minister Dr. Salim al-Huss this morning met Ambassador Salah Staytiyah, acting secretary general of the Foreign Ministry, and discussed with him aspects of the ministry's work. Dr. al-Huss also met Lebanon's Ambassador to Kuwait 'Adnand Badra, who returned home a few days ago. Badra briefed the prime minister on conditions for the Lebanese community and the embassy as well as the measures taken to ensure the wellbeing of the Lebanese community.

Lebanese Forces Chief Calls For 'Awn's Removal

NC0509180790 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1615 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Excerpts] At a news conference this evening, Staff Major General Fu'ad Malik, Lebanese Forces chief of staff, denied the rumors disseminated by General Michel 'Awn's media about incidents and assassination attempts in areas under the control of the Lebanese Forces. He indicated that these rumors are disdainful of the people and try to create confusion, adding that the facts are completely contrary to the rumors spread by these media.

Maj. Gen. Malik emphasized the need to end the rebellion represented by Gen. Michel 'Awn. He did not rule out the near future for 'Awn's removal. He said that the operations in the areas under Gen. 'Awn are due to divisions within 'Awn's ranks.

Our correspondent John Munayyar has this report on the news conference:

[Begin recording] [Munayyar] Staff Maj. Gen. Fu'ad Malik, chief of staff of the Lebanese Forces, has stated that he believes that what 'Awn's group is now doing on the confrontation lines is distracting the people from the real conditions. He added that he does not believe that Gen. 'Awn will launch a new campaign against the Lebanese Forces' positions because Gen. 'Awn learned a good lesson during the past few months. He added that Gen. 'Awn does not have the force to achieve this step.

He said that the Lebanese Forces are prepared for all defensive contingencies and that they have no offensive intention. Malik also denied the rumors disseminated by 'Awn's media about clashes and divisions within the Lebanese Forces, describing these rumors as wishful thinking. [passage omitted]

Responding to a question, Malik said: Let us hope that Gen. 'Awn will not last long and that his phenomenon will be eliminated soon. 'Awn is a rebel and he must be removed by any means, he said. [passage omitted]

'Awn 'Source' on Threats for Military Action

NC0409132890 (Clandestine) *The Lebanese Radio in Arabic* 1100 GMT 4 Sep 90

[Excerpts] The suspicious intentions of the al-Ta'if group [reference to al-Hirawi's government] are becoming clearer daily. This group is determined to involve the Lebanese army in a battle against the units of that army stationed in the eastern areas. [passage omitted]

A source close to the prime minister [General Michel 'Awn] today said that the purpose of the recent threats is more to undermine the military institution than to launch a military action. The source accused the al-Ta'if politicians of wanting to implement the final stage of their conspiracy by undermining the military institution.

The source was quoted by the newspaper AL-DIYAR as saying that the al-Ta'if group, besides wanting to undermine the army, seeks to divert attention from the economic suffering, to contain the popular anger, and to distract the public from the real crisis.

As for the fortifications and military measures taken by the army command, the source said that no additional measures were taken. The troops, he said, are in a state of complete preparedness, materially and morally, which is normal for them, as the army always stays prepared and alert, the source said.

Army Deploys in Al-Matn; East Beirut Calm

NC0509085490 *Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic* 0515 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] AP has cited a military source in East Beirut as saying that the Lebanese Army under General Emile Lahhud's command has reinforced its positions on the al-Matn front. The source says that 6,000 Lebanese soldiers have been stationed in positions facing those of General Michel 'Awn positions on that front.

Sources described as official were cited as saying that the army command has received several tanks and some other hardware that had been in the possession of the militias. The sources said that the army command will receive more hardware in the next few days. The sources did not specify which militia had handed over the weapons.

It has been learned that 11 officers and 250 soldiers have left the areas under Gen 'Awn's control and joined the legitimate army command over the past 10 days. [In a related report on security developments, Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic at 0515 GMT on 5 September adds: "Guarded calm prevails on the lines of the eastern areas following the escalation triggered last night when General 'Awn's units fired mortars and RPG-7 shells at the

Lebanese Forces positions in Sinn al-Fil, al-Jisr al-Wati, the Museum, Nahr al-Mawt, and Salome."]

Amal-Hizballah Clashes Resume in Iqlim Al-Tuffah

Villages Shelled 2 Sep

NC0209112390 *Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic* 1030 GMT 2 Sep 90

[Text] Clashes involving automatic weapons, rockets, and long-range artillery resumed between the Amal Movement and Hizballah in Iqlim al-Tuffah this morning.

An Amal Movement military source in the south has stated that Hizballah intensified its concentrated shelling of the villages in Iqlim al-Tuffah all last night and this morning, using heavy-caliber weapons and rockets launchers, in addition to bursts of sniper fire. Artillery shells and rockets fell on the residential areas in 'Arab Salim, Kafr Bayt, Humin al-Fawqa, Sarba, and Kafr Hatta, wounding five people, damaging a number of houses, and destroying vast areas of plantations.

The source added that Hizballah groups resumed shelling of Sarba, Kafr Hatta, and Jurnaya from their positions in Kassarat Kafr Fila at 1100 today.

Agree to Cease-Fire 2 Sep

NC0209172390 *Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic* 1700 GMT 2 Sep 90

[Text] Under the auspices of the Syrian Arab Republic and the Islamic Republic of Iran, a series of meetings were held at the office of Brigadier General Ghazi Kan'an attended by delegations from the Amal Movement and Hizballah. The conferees discussed the dimensions of the conflict between the Movement and Hizballah, particularly the explosive situation in Iqlim al-Tuffah and its repercussions on the Lebanese situation.

The meetings also provided an opportunity to exchange views, specify the basis of the problem, and work out an agreement to resolve it. It has been agreed to observe a comprehensive cease-fire as of 2000 today. It was also agreed to stop media campaigns and to achieve the best solution that will ensure the unity of ranks and safeguard Islamic interests.

Cease-Fire Violated

NC0409165390 *Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic* 1615 GMT 4 Sep 90

[Text] An Amal Movement source today accused Hizballah of causing the situation to flare up and of opening fire at the Movement's positions in Jurnaya, Kafr Hatta, 'Arab Salim, and Sarba. The source said the Movement continues to abide unilaterally by the cease-fire.

Meanwhile, a Hizballah source accused the Movement of violating the cease-fire agreement and of bombarding Hizballah positions in Jarju'.

Air Units Carry Out Exercise; Talas Attends*JN0609061990 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1815 GMT 5 Sep 90*

[Text] Under the directives of President struggler Hafiz al-Asad, commander in chief of the Army and Armed Forces, our air formations carried out a combat exercise with live ammunition in cooperation with air defense units. The exercise was attended by General Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief, deputy prime minister, and defense minister, and General 'Ali Aslan, deputy chief of staff of the Army and the Armed Forces. It was also attended by senior General Command and formations officers. The commander of the Air Force and Air Defenses gave a detailed briefing on all preparatory and executive stages of the exercise. The units' commanders then explained the roles of their formations in the exercise. Afterward, our warplanes carried out the exercise. In cooperation with surface-to-air missiles, our warplanes confronted the hypothetical enemy planes and prevented them from carrying out their tasks. Our fighter-bombers dealt heavy blows against the hypothetical enemy targets, inflicting direct and highly accurate hits, which reflected the high skills of our well-trained pilots and air defense personnel in handling sophisticated equipment and weapons.

Following the exercise, Gen. Talas praised the implementation of the exercise. He also praised the supervisors and participants. He attributed the high performance of our Air Force and Air Defenses to leader al-Asad's great care and efforts to bring our valiant Armed Forces up to the level of their pan-Arab responsibility. The general also said that the Palestine question will remain the focus of our attention, which will not be distracted by peripheral battles triggered by the plotters in the Arab arena from our main issues and our readiness to make further sacrifices to liberate our usurped land. The general said everyone should be fully prepared so as to achieve our Arab nation's objectives of victory and liberation, with their eternal slogan being martyrdom or victory.

Later, the general and his companions left the field of the exercise with the usual ceremonies.

Iraqi Leader Urged to 'Accept Arab Will'*PM0509150590 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic
29 Aug-4 Sep 90 p 25*

[Interview with Information Minister Muhammad Salman by Ibrahim 'Awad; place and date unspecified]

[Text] ['Awad] What is your opinion of the role which the Arab media are expected to play in the serious stage which the Arab nation is experiencing?

[Salman] In these circumstances the media's responsibility is to enlighten Arab citizens about the dangers surrounding the nation, and to protect them against any ideas that would lead them to frustration and despair. The Arab media can also play an effective role via the latest communications means to address international

reason and give it a true picture of the nature of the present threats, especially as those who are lying in wait for the Arabs—with the Zionists in the forefront—see the present situation as the right one for kindling hostility against the Arabs and for promoting their allegations about Arab disputes' being deeper than the Arab-Zionist conflict. Since the crisis started we in Syria have sought to warn against the dangers of that conspiracy, which is aimed against not only Iraq but all the Arabs.

['Awad] Do you believe that there is still time to find a peaceful Arab solution to the crisis resulting from Iraq's occupation of Kuwait—a solution that would spare the region dangers and restore the cohesion among its sons?

[Salman] There is still a chance of an Arab solution that starts with the removal of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and its subsequent results. And the Arab family is capable—within the framework of Arab brotherhood, the Arab League charter, and the continuing efforts exerted by President Hafiz al-Asad in cooperation with his sincere brother Arab leader—of following the path that would spare the region and the world the threats of a huge conflagration whose implications would be difficult to assess. This is if those who committed the action display good intent and if the Iraqi president backs down. It is better for him to accept the Arab will than to back down as a result of foreign force.

['Awad] Syria hastened to participate in sending forces to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia despite the presence of U.S. forces there—which has prompted some people to point to improvement in Syrian-U.S. relations.

[Salman] The Cairo summit endorsed that contribution, which we believe can be a major step toward the Arab solution, whose objectives include sparing the region the effects of foreign intervention. As for Syria's international relations, they are based on specific foundations that are known to all.

['Awad] Some people compare Iraq's invasion of Kuwait with the Syrian forces' entry into Lebanon. What is your reply to that comparison?

[Salman] There is no comparison between the two cases. The objective of the Iraqi invasion is to eliminate a state, remove legitimacy, and annex Kuwait. As for our entry into Lebanon, the objective was to stop the civil war at a request from the Lebanese authorities and the Arab League, which formed an Arab deterrent force from among several Arab armies, including the Syrian forces.

Over the past 15 years we have worked to safeguard the legitimate institutions and help the Lebanese brothers to achieve national reconciliation, which has started to take place through the implementation of the al-Ta'if agreement and the building of Lebanese state institutions. So there is a fundamental difference between the case of the Iraqi annexation of Kuwait, which we reject, and Syria's role in bolstering Lebanon's independence, its people's unity, and its territorial integrity. That role, as is known, enjoys widespread Arab and international support.

[Awad] Will what happened recently between Iraq and Iran, namely the withdrawal of forces and the exchange of POW's, have an impact on Syrian-Iranian relations and negatively affect the Lebanese scene, bearing in mind that Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam visited Tehran after the summit conference?

[Salman] We in the first place rejected that war, which wasted vast human and economic resources for both the Iraqi and Iranian peoples. We also warned against the dangers of expanding that war. The elimination of the causes and results of that war proves the soundness of our position and leads to a strengthening of our relations with Iran vis-a-vis our principal conflict with Zionism and Israel's aggressive, expansionist policy.

SUM Says Invasion Pretext for Foreign Presence

JN0609060390 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1600 GMT
5 Sep 90

[Text] Al-Raqqah, eastern Syria, 5 Sep (SANA)—The Central Committee of the Socialist Unionist Movement [SUM] in Syria has stated that the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait created a pretext and justification for U.S. military presence, leading to control over international politics and hegemony over the peoples of the world.

In an emergency meeting in al-Raqqah city under the chairmanship of Fayiz Isma'il, member of the National Progressive Front's Central Command [NPFCC] in Syria and secretary general of the SUM, the Committee said it believes the only way the Arab nation can remove U.S. forces from the Gulf is through Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait and through dialogue on the causes of the crisis within the Arab League framework.

The Committee said this is what Syria had been calling for from the very beginning in order to contain the crisis in an Arab framework and avert foreign intervention.

It added that ignoring the reasons for the crisis, which Iraq is doing by raising peripheral slogans and detaining nationals of Western countries as hostages, will only aggravate and ignite the situation further, leading it to the verge of explosion. This will inflict destruction on the Arab nation, especially the fraternal Iraqi people.

The SUM Central Committee reaffirmed the importance of the Syrian view presented by President Hafiz al-Asad at the last emergency Arab summit and when he chaired a meeting of the NPFCC. This view arises out of his concern for the destiny of the Arab nation and its main issue, Palestine, and total adherence to the necessity of uniting Arab efforts in the crucible of the struggle against the Zionist enemy's expansionist designs.

The Committee concluded that Iraq's stubbornness and lack of response to Arab and international unanimity will lead to

a catastrophe that will afflict the whole Arab nation and reinstate imperialist hegemony over the region.

Editorial on Iraqi People's Role in 'Impasse'

JN0509184790 Damascus AL-BA'TH in Arabic
31 Aug 90 p 1

[Editorial: "Syria and the Pan-Arab Mission at a Difficult Time"]

[Text] Syria added a new feat to its pan-Arab feats when it lifted Arab solidarity above narrow purposes. Thus, it placed the entire Arab nation in the only confrontation trench. However, it seems that the state of Arab solidarity did not delight those who are used to strike at the pan-Arab trend whenever the Arabs come closer to their objective. The fight against the Iranian revolution sought to demolish what the Arabs had built; the invasion of Kuwait is no less a danger; that is, if not more painful. It is as if this adventurous mentality were only created to stand as an obstacle to the Arabs to bleed them dry, thus making it easy for their enemies to reach their objectives.

We see that Syria, which always shoulders the burdens of pan-Arab action, has proved to all Arabs that protecting the nation from a collapse requires protecting Iraq and its people from the results of a reckless behavior that exhausts potentials in the wrong place. It is very natural for struggler President Hafiz al-Asad to be the first to work to prevent the nation from falling into the abyss that the Iraqi regime wants to make the graveyard of hundreds of thousands of Arabs.

President al-Asad's move in this direction is the most prominent feature of the concern for the pan-Arab fate in general and the fate of Iraq's security in particular.

The meeting between Presidents al-Asad and Mubarak represents one side of the deep concern for the serious situation imposed by the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait on all Arabs. Syria's dealing with this serious situation is dictated by pan-Arab interest to safeguard the Iraqi people and army as well as Arab potential and fate. Therefore, leader al-Asad found that closing Arab ranks is the major mission at this difficult time. Fate cannot be protected by leaving Arab territory and future at the mercy of a gamble that will only benefit the enemies of the Arab nation.

For the sake of the whole nation, the people of Iraq should play their role, not by putting themselves in an impasse but by getting rid of those who imposed this impasse upon them and exposed them to something the consequences of which will not be praiseworthy.

Therefore, it is the role of the people of Iraq; it is their mission. They are necessarily capable of mending the gap caused by the new crazy adventure.

Afghanistan

Najibullah Discusses National Reconciliation

LD0409202290 Paris Antenne 2 Television in French
1800 GMT 4 Sep 90

[Interview with President Najibullah by journalists Herve Claude and Jerome Bony in Paris; Najibullah speaks in Dari with superimposed French translation—live]

[Text] [Claude] The Afghan president is here with us in the studio. Good evening, Mr. President. Now, we know that fighting continues in your country. Even today dispatches showed us, or at least they told us that there had been another 40 people killed in fighting near to the Soviet border. Does your country still appear to be divided? Has national reconciliation not failed?

[Najibullah] Despite the fact that the war continues, there have been 2 million killed and injured in Afghanistan, but there has been progress, in other words, progress with regard to the national reconciliation policy in other areas. This is progress with which we are satisfied.

[Claude] Mr. President. You are holding out in Kabul and the big towns, but if you are holding out, we know that it is thanks to the massive aid of the Soviets. After the departure of the Soviet troops military aid continued, particularly with the supply of those enormous Scud missiles, which Iraq also has.

[Najibullah] In our peace proposal we suggested techniques [words indistinct] and also the delivery of weapons being under debate, but there must be agreements, and there is even the question of the demilitarization of Afghanistan.

[Claude] If the Soviets left, in fact it is thanks to the warlords on the mujahidin side, like President Masud [as heard], the commander of the northern forces. Would you be ready tomorrow to collaborate, in Kabul, with mujahidin representatives who are, let us say, moderates?

[Najibullah] With regard to the withdrawal of troops from Afghanistan, the Soviets, it is because of the national reconciliation policy, and also because of this policy there were the Geneva agreements, and the state of the Republic of Afghanistan announced several times that it is ready to share power.

[Claude] Mr. President, the Americans set your resignation as a precondition for any peace solution. Now, would you be ready to step down if you thought this would allow free elections, as recommended by the United Nations, being held?

[Najibullah] I think that, with regard to the political solution for Afghanistan, it is the agreement of politicians and not to eliminate politicians [as heard].

[Claude] So you are not planning to leave power?

[Najibullah] We have announced free elections, under the supervision of the United Nations. The people must be allowed to choose. The results of the elections will show.

[Claude] So you are waiting for the elections. At the moment, there is, of course, the Gulf crisis. On what side is Afghanistan or at least your government? We do not know a lot about this. Do you support Iraq, are you rather on the side of the Americans?

[Najibullah] The Gulf crisis is a serious situation, and I think that all the international efforts must stop, avoid a war or a military confrontation, and also avoid the situation of the Gulf and in the region. A political solution also must be sought and force must not be used.

[Claude] First of all a negotiated solution—preferably between the Arabs, do you think?

[Najibullah] Through negotiations between the Arabs and through understanding between the sides in the conflict.

[Claude] Last point. It's no secret that Afghanistan is trying to get out of its diplomatic isolation. Is this a first try in Paris? You have met foreign leaders or even French leaders.

[Najibullah] Of course, at the time of the conference I was received at the Foreign Ministry and I was warmly welcomed, and I extend my thanks for that.

[Bony] Thank you, Mr. President.

[Najibullah] I should like to take the opportunity to present my sincere and warm greetings to the good people of France, and say that France, as a country of freedom and democracy and the cradle of human rights, is also the cradle of the great French revolution, which is the beginning of a new era for humanity.

[Bony] Thank you for accepting our invitation.

Reportage on President's Trip to Europe

WA05924690

For reportage on the visit by Najibullah to France to participate in a UN conference, including reports on his talks with UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, please see the France section of the 4 September West Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

Cultural Agreement Signed With Bulgaria

LD0509073290 Kabul BAKHTAR in English
0511 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] Kabul, Sep. 4 (BAKHTAR)—A scientific cultural agreement between the government of the Republic of Afghanistan and the government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria for the year (1990-1992) was signed at the headquarters of that ministry.

The agreement was signed from Afghanistan side by Khial Muhammad Katawazi, foreign deputy minister

and from Bulgarian side by H.E. Evan Mativ, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of that country to the Republic of Afghanistan.

Rebels Down Helicopters, Killing Kabul Officers

BK0109090990 Hong Kong AFP in English 0715 GMT 1 Sep 90

[Text] Islamabad, Sept 1 (AFP)—At least 10 Afghan Army officers were killed when mujahidin guerrillas shot down two helicopters in southern Zabul Province Thursday, resistance sources reported Saturday. The pro-resistance Afghan Islamic Press (AIP) News Agency identified the helicopters as Mi-24s saying the guerrillas downed them with the help of shoulder-fired Stinger missiles.

The helicopters were airlifting food and ammunition from Kandahar to Zabul as road links with the capital Kabul remained severed since last year, it said. The incident took place in the wake of several weeks of lull in the fighting. The resistance had recovered the bodies of six of the men identified as senior officers, AIP said, adding the bodies could be swapped for mujahidin prisoners held by Kabul.

Mujahidin Fighters Surround Capital of Badghis

LD0109192190 (Clandestine) Voice of Islamic Revolution of Afghanistan in Dari 1700 GMT 31 Aug 90

[Text] A source from the Muslim mujahidin has reported that fighting between the Muslim mujahidin and government forces has been continuing in this province [of Badghis]. A report which was sent out on the second day of this month [beginning 24 August] says that all surrounding regions of Badghis province have been liberated and government offices are being surrounded by Muslim mujahidin at a distance of two kms. The entry road of the government forces to the capital of Badghis has been cut off by the mujahidin and the Kabul regime cannot supply its forces in Badghis province.

The same source said that government helicopters cannot land at Badghis Airport because the airport has been surrounded by the Muslim mujahidin.

The source added that simultaneously and in coordination with this operation the mujahidin launched rocket attacks on the 17th Division of Herat, the no. 4 armored forces, and Herat Airport. In retaliation for these attacks the communist regime of Kabul launched rocket attacks and air raids on western sections of Herat. So far no reports are available on the losses of fighters or of local people.

40 Government Troops Reported Killed in Samangan

BK0409122890 Hong Kong AFP in English 1213 GMT 4 Sep 90

[Text] Islamabad, Sept 4 (AFP)—At least 40 government soldiers were killed and 60 injured as Afghan rebels attacked northern Samangan province on the Soviet

border, western diplomats said here Tuesday. In addition to the casualties, the government forces lost six tanks and three other military vehicles in two days of fighting, the diplomats said.

Clashes were also reported in western Badghis province bordering Iran and southern Kandahar bordering Pakistan's Balochistan province, the sources said. In Badghis, mujahideen guerrillas entered the provincial capital Qilae Nau, after overrunning three security posts outside the city last week, the diplomats said.

To release the guerrilla pressure, the government air force bombarded the nearby Farsi area, which also disrupted their supply lines, they said. The rebels heavily shelled the country's biggest air base of Shindand and attacked a regime convoy heading towards Farsi, the diplomats said. Both sides have taken "substantial casualties," they said without giving exact figures.

As fighting continues for the control of Qilae Nau, the diplomats said the mujahideen also attacked security posts around Takhte Pul, a highway town in Kandahar. Details of losses were not immediately available. The attacks follow reports from several resistance sources that the mujahideen was planning fresh offensives against government forces in bordering provinces.

Merbachakot Fighting Claims 19 Lives

LD0409205890 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 4 Sep 90

[Text] As a result of fierce fighting around Merbachakot district [Kabul Province] between rival extremist groups, 19 men from the belligerent parties of Rabani and Golbuddin groups were killed.

BAKHAR's military section reports that as a result of these clashes in Moshwani and Babaqashqar villages, 15 men from the belligerent parties were also injured, and the headquarters of the Gulbuddin group was seized by the rival group. These clashes continue.

Five Killed as Mujahidin Rockets Strike Kabul

BK0509010290 Hong Kong AFP in English 1811 GMT 4 Sep 90

[Text] Kabul, Sept 4 (AFP)—Mujahidin guerrillas fired at least 12 rockets at the Afghan capital Tuesday, killing five people and injuring several more, state television said. The surface-to-surface missiles hit residential areas around the Intercontinental Hotel and Afghan Government offices.

At least five civilians were killed and an unspecified number of others injured in the latest hits by U.S.-made rockets on Kabul, the home to some 2.5 million people, the television said. A Radio Kabul broadcast monitored in Islamabad earlier gave the toll as five killed and four injured.

The rockets mostly targeted areas around the hotel complex where the government has positioned its Soviet-supplied long-range SCUD missiles, other reports said.

The new mujahidin rocketing of Kabul began a day after the Afghan Government launched its latest military campaign against mujahidin missile bases located in the hills ringing Kabul.

More Than 30 Rebels Die in Kabul Fighting

BK0509162090 Hong Kong AFP in English 1601 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] Kabul, Sept 5 (AFP)—More than 30 Afghan guerrillas have died in fighting government troops or in internecine clashes around Kabul in the last two days, a government spokesman said here Wednesday. He said at least 18 mujahideen guerrillas were killed and 16 wounded Tuesday when Afghan soldiers launched an operation to force them from areas around the capital.

He said troops also managed to destroy about 80 missiles used by the rebels to bombard the city. In separate skirmishes since Tuesday between the rival mujahideen factions of the fundamentalist Hezb-e-Islami and the Jamiat Islami outside Kabul 16 guerrillas died and 15 were wounded, the spokesman said. The Soviet-backed government has launched two drives against guerrillas in the hills around the capital in an effort to destroy their missile sites, the spokesman added.

Bangladesh

Ershad Calls Asian Muslim States To Discuss Gulf

BK0509161390 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] President Ershad has emphasized the need for the Asian Muslim countries to discuss the present Gulf crisis. Our diplomatic correspondent says the president has already taken the initiative in this regard by sending Foreign Minister Anisul Islam Mahmud with a message to different heads of state and government of these countries. The foreign minister has already visited Brunei and Indonesia and is visiting the Maldives today.

Ershad Returns From UN Paris Conference

BK0509141790 Dhaka Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] President Ershad returned to Dhaka Wednesday [5 September] at the end of his four-day visit to Paris. The president addressed the second UN conference on the least developed countries [LDC's] as a special invited guest in the French capital on Tuesday.

Prime Minister Hospitalized for Exhaustion

BK0109000190 Hong Kong AFP in English 1317 GMT 31 Aug 90

[Text] Dhaka, Aug 31 (AFP)—Bangladesh Prime Minister Kazi Zafar Ahmed has been hospitalised for exhaustion, the official BSS News Agency reported Friday. Mr.

Ahmed was admitted to Dhaka's top Suhrawardy Hospital late Thursday, the agency said, adding that his condition "started" to improve. He was appointed prime minister in August 1989.

Malaysia To Raise Oil Output at Dhaka's Request

BK0609022490 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 6 Sep 90

[Text] Malaysia is to raise its crude oil output to meet the needs of Bangladesh. Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed announcing this on television yesterday said it is being done at the request of Bangladesh. He said Pakistan has also asked for supplies.

Commentary Views Gulf Evacuation Problems

BK0509052190 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 4 Sep 90

[Station commentary]

[Text] In the wake of the Gulf crisis, over 85,000 Bangladeshi nationals have been trapped in Iraq and Kuwait. Of them, 3,157 have been repatriated from different points by our national airlines and a Saudi aircraft. In addition, some 38,000 Bangladeshis are now stranded in Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, and Iran. The government has been moving from pillar to post to arrange more aircraft, ships, and necessary funds to expedite the repatriation process. Two DC-10 aircraft of Bangladesh Biman are currently engaged in flying back our nationals from Middle Eastern countries. The crux of the matter is that chartering of plane or ship has become quite difficult because of similar demands from other countries as well. Moreover, it is a time-consuming proposition.

The government has been fully alive to the exigency of repatriating our nationals whose number is swelling as the day passes. It is certainly a matter of respite that the United Nations Disaster Relief Organization has agreed to operate five flights from today till the 8th of this month. These flights are expected to carry 1,200 of our nationals. A Soviet aircraft will be used for the purpose, while Japan has promised to bear the expenses of these five flights. In the meantime, efforts were continuing to charter two ships for bringing back our people from Jordan. Of course, the government has convinced the International Organization of Migration to bear all expenses for the operation of the two ships.

The task of repatriation of such a large number of people is quite challenging. Passenger ships and aircraft are the only requisitory and that would entail huge funds. On the one hand, Bangladesh will lose about \$500 to \$700 million being sent by Bangladeshi workers, in addition to the stoppage of exports amounting to \$120 million to Middle Eastern countries. And yet there is no let up of efforts on the part of the government to arrange the repatriation of our nationals as quickly as possible.

What is worrying the government functionaries most is the increasing number of Bangladeshi nationals stuck in no-man's land near the Jordanian and Turkish borders. Some 10,000 of our nationals are stuck near the Iraqi-Turkish border, 5,000 on the Iraqi-Jordan border, and another 5,000 in a desolate Iraqi area. Already, 14,000 Bangladeshis have taken shelter in Jordanian camps and Amman cannot cope with the situation before a large-scale evacuation of those inside the territory starts. The government approached the International Committee for Red Cross [ICRC] to render succor to the distressed Bangladeshis in no-man's land till they could cross over to Jordan and Turkey. Food and drinks are being provided to them by the ICRC. The government has rightly advised our nationals in Kuwait to wait for some time as our friendly countries around would allow fresh entry only after the repatriation of those already in camps.

Repatriation of our nationals is a commitment of the nation and the government. We are faced with an unusual situation and the process of repatriation itself is cumbersome as we neither have sufficient aircraft nor ships, nor excess foreign exchange to be spent without giving much thought. In consideration of the magnitude of the problem, our capacity to handle the same is limited. What is not wanting is the sincerity of purpose by those at the helm of affairs, and all concerned are making untiring efforts to expedite repatriation of our nationals who are just victims of circumstances. We are hopeful the task will be completed sooner than expected if the present trend is maintained and all concerned cooperate to the maximum.

India

Kuwaiti Minister Meets With Prime Minister

Joint Call for Troop Withdrawal

BK0509160690 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] India and Kuwait today called for the withdrawal of Iraqi forces and restoration of Kuwait's sovereignty. The matter came up for discussion when Kuwait's oil minister and the special envoy of the Amir of Kuwait, Dr. Rashid al-Amiri, called on the prime minister, Mr. V.P. Singh, and the external affairs minister, Mr. I.K. Gujral, in New Delhi today. Both sides agreed that there should be a peaceful negotiated settlement to the crisis. The Indian side reiterated New Delhi's opposition to the use of force in international relations and reaffirmed that India is not recognizing merger or annexation of Kuwait by Iraq.

An external affairs ministry spokesman told newsmen in New Delhi this evening that Dr. al-Amiri urged India and the world community to take a firm stand on the Kuwaiti issue and condemn Iraq's aggression. New Delhi also stressed that its diplomatic relations with Kuwait remained uninterrupted.

Praises Superpower Talks

BK0509170090 Hong Kong AFP in English 1635 GMT
5 Sep 90

[Text] New Delhi, Sept 5 (AFP)—The superpower summit in Helsinki will mark a turning point in the Gulf crisis and determine whether or not war breaks out over Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, a senior Kuwaiti minister said here Wednesday. "I am sure that it will be a turning point, either towards peace or towards war," Oil Minister Rashid al-Amiri said of the summit set for Sunday between U.S. President George Bush and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev.

At a press conference here after meeting Indian leaders, Mr. al-Amiri evaded a direct answer to questions about what the exiled Kuwaiti government expected the summit to achieve. "I hope this meeting will not be the first step towards an all-out war against Iraq," he said, adding: "If (Iraqi leader) Saddam Husayn is smart enough, he will save himself from war."

Mr. al-Amiri urged the international community to keep up the pressure on Mr. Husayn to withdraw Iraqi troops who overran Kuwait on August 2. "At this critical time in the history of the Arab nation, it is imperative that the sanctions imposed by the United Nations ... Are fully implemented so that Iraq can be made to see reason and it withdraws its troops from Kuwait," he said.

The U.S.-led economic blockade of Iraq, he said, was "biting" the Baghdad government. He said the blockade was necessary to exert pressure on Iraq, but added that the crisis in the gulf could not be defused until Iraqi troops withdrew from Kuwait and deposed Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah was restored to power.

"A strict blockade of every and each commodity that enters Iraq" was necessary to demonstrate to the Iraqis that "Saddam Husayn has isolated them in the world," he said. Mr. al-Amiri cautioned against losing sight of the "main problem," emphasising repeatedly that the crisis was rooted in the Iraqi invasion of his oil-rich country.

The minister was a member of the Kuwaiti team which went to Jeddah to negotiate with Iraqi officials on Baghdad's allegations that Kuwait was stealing its oil and occupying its territory. Seven hours after he returned home, Iraqi troops and tanks invaded Kuwait, he said.

Mr. al-Amiri, who arrived here late Tuesday to seek India's support for the Kuwaiti cause, said the threat of Iraqi aggression against Saudi Arabia had receded. "It is very unlikely now," he said when asked if Iraq could attack Saudi Arabia. "But it was very likely when the invaders came. It was obvious then that the next target would be Saudi Arabia."

The minister said it was unfortunate that "many" arab countries had taken Iraq's side, either because they were

afraid of Baghdad's military muscle or had been "promised a part of the cake," referring to Kuwait's oil wealth. "But God gave this wealth to Kuwait," he said. "No one can play God."

Mr. al-'Amiri discounted the possibility of an initiative by the nonaligned movement to defuse the gulf crisis, saying the organisation would only be wasting its time discussing the issue. "If this issue is not resolved by U.N. resolutions, you can tear up the U.N. Charter and throw it in the garbage," he said.

In New Delhi, Mr. al-'Amiri met Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh, Foreign Minister Inder Kumar Gujral and Petroleum Minister M.S. Gurupadaswamy whom he briefed on the situation in Kuwait. Some 172,000 Indians were living there at the time of the invasion. Kuwait was an important source of oil for India and financed Indian development projects worth nearly 300 million U.S. Dollars.

Mr. al-'Amiri, who said he would spend a "few days" in New Delhi before returning to Saudi Arabia, expressed confidence that "Kuwait will win." "Saddam Husayn has mis-estimated the size of Kuwait," he said. "It may be very small on the map, but it has united the entire world."

First Ship Leaves Kuwait With 600 Nationals

BK0609085090 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English 1600 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] A merchant vessel carrying 600 Indians has left the Kuwaiti port for Dubayy. This vessels is said to be the first merchant ship to sail out of Kuwait since the Iraqi invasion.

Indian Airlines Stepping Up Gulf Operations

BK0609040090 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 6 Sep 90

[Text] Indian Airlines is stepping up its Gulf operations with immediate effect. Two more 271-seater airbus A-300 and four airbus A-320 aircraft are being inducted for flying out stranded Indians from Amman. While two airbuses will fly out Indians daily from Amman to Dubayy and then to Bombay, one airbus stationed in Dubayy will shuttle between Amman and Dubayy ferrying stranded Indians. They will immediately be flown to Bombay by four 168-seater airbus aircraft which will be flying between Dubayy and Bombay regularly. Consequently, Indian Airlines has revised its schedule of operations from tomorrow till the 15th of this month. The railways have also made elaborate arrangements for assisting Indian repatriates arriving from the Gulf countries. According to a Central Railway release, a total of 37 coaches have been attached to various trains bound for Madras, Bangalore and Kanniyakumari from Bombay.

UN Permission Sought To Send Supplies to Kuwait

BK0609043090 London BBC World Service in English 0215 GMT 6 Sep 90

[From the "Newsreel" program]

[Text] It is now reported that India has asked the United Nations for permission to take a cargo of food and medicines into Iraqi-occupied Kuwait. It says the supplies are needed by the 150,000 Indians still trapped there. The report comes as India prepares to evacuate a second boat-load of its citizens from Kuwait. One of our correspondents in the Gulf, (Jonathan Burchil), says the Indian request to the United Nations will be a major test of the interpretation of the sanctions resolutions.

[Begin (Burchil) recording] A Panamanian-registered cargo ship, (Sasia), is currently heading down the Gulf towards Dubayy and is reported to be carrying 750 Indian evacuees from Kuwait. The ship was trapped in Kuwait by the Iraqi invasion a month ago. But the Indian Government wants to send in one of its own ships called The Tipu Sultan to take out another 650 people. The Tipu Sultan was supposed to arrive in Kuwait on Thursday [6 September] or Friday. But it has been waiting at the mouth of the Gulf at the port of (Kofakan) since Tuesday. And in the meantime, India has invoked the exceptions to the United Nations sanctions against Iraq, which allows shipments of medicine and food in humanitarian circumstances. It will be a tough decision for the United Nations. There have been repeated reports of hardship amongst the Asian community in Kuwait and there is no guarantee that supplies shipped for Indians will not go to Iraq. India's foreign minister has made it clear that his government's priority is the well-being of the Indian community in Kuwait, and India was one of the first countries to comply with Iraqi instructions to close embassies in Kuwait. The timing of the Indian request to the United Nations suggests a link to the delay in the sailing of The Tipu Sultan and that the ship will only be allowed to take Indian nationals out of Kuwait if it first takes supplies in. [end recording]

Parliament Concerned Over Nationals in Gulf

BK0609133890 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 6 Sep 90

[Text] The Rajya Sabha today expressed concern over the plight of Indians stranded in Kuwait, Iraq, and Jordan. The entire house stood as one with Mr. Atal Behari Vajpayee, BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party], who raised the matter as a special mention. Mr. Vajpayee wanted the government to approach the United Nations and all our neighboring countries to prepare a contingency plan so that people stranded in Kuwait and Iraq from our region get all possible help. The leader of the house, Mr. Gurupadaswamy, said the center is concerned about the well-being of our people and that food, medicine, and other essential items will be sent to the people stranded in the gulf.

UN Security Council Urged To Ease Hardships

BK0609091190 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 6 Sep 90

[Text] India has urged the UN Security Council to help solve its economic and humanitarian problems in the wake of the Gulf crisis and the trade embargo imposed by the United Nations against Iraq and Kuwait. The Indian ambassador to the United Nations, Mr. C.S. Gharekhan, met the Security Council president, Mr. Yuliy Vorontsov, of the Soviet Union and apprised him of India's hardships owing to stoppage of oil supplies from Iraq and Kuwait, rise in the price of crude oil, and thousands of Indians losing jobs in both the countries.

UAE To Supply 500,000 More Tons of Oil

BK0509035190 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] The United Arab Emirates [UAE] has agreed to provide India five lakh [100,000] tons of crude oil. This is in addition to the already existing contract of supplying 10 lakh tons of crude oil for the current financial year. An agreement to this effect was reached between the visiting Indian delegation and the UAE Government-owned Abu Dhabi National Oil Company.

Sri Lanka Promised Help With Refugee Camps

BK0409094190 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 4 Sep 90

[Text] India will provide all help to the Sri Lankan Government in setting up refugee camps on the island to prevent further influx of refugees into Tamil Nadu. The Indian high commissioner to Sri Lanka, Mr. Nagendra Nath Jha, said in Colombo that discussions are continuing with the Sri Lankan Government in this regard. He said three refugee camps are likely to start functioning soon at Vavuniya, (Madhu Church), and Mannar Island. The International Committee of the Red Cross will be involved in the maintenance of these camps. Mr. Jha said the Indian interest in the current conflict between the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] militants and the security forces is mainly humanitarian. He hoped that with the setting up of the proposed refugee camps on the island, the problem of influx of Sri Lankan refugees to India will be minimized.

Sikh Leader Says Punjab Should Secede Peacefully

BK3108120690 Hong Kong AFP in English 1124 GMT
31 Aug 90

[Text] New Delhi, Aug 31 (AFP)—India's leading Sikh politician was Friday quoted as saying he would campaign for Punjab's secession peacefully if his party wins a U.N.-supervised referendum it has demanded in the troubled border state. THE TIMES OF INDIA newspaper reported that Simranjit Singh Mann, who heads his faction of the Sikh Akali Dal Party, felt that it was "better to part (with India) peacefully through the ballot."

The Akali Dal (Mann Group) has demanded a referendum in northern Punjab State under the auspices of the United Nations to determine whether Sikhs wanted to remain a part of India or go independent. The English-language daily quoted the police officer-turned-politician as saying that if his party won the plebiscite, it would demand "the creation of a sovereign, independent and separate Sikh nation, Khalistan."

Mr. Mann, who is now touring Punjab on foot, also described Sikh militants fighting violently for Khalistan as "freedom fighters of the Sikh community and (who) have an honoured place in the party and in our minds and hearts." THE TIMES also quoted Mr. Mann as saying in an interview in Chandigarh, the Punjabi capital, that his Akali Dal would send a letter to the United Nations shortly requesting a referendum in Punjab.

The Akali Dal led by Mr. Mann, the most powerful Sikh political party in Punjab, put six members in federal parliament in the November general elections while three independent nominees also were elected with the party's support. One Akali Dal (Mann) MP was subsequently murdered, while Mr. Mann himself quit his parliament seat this month to protest orders banning him from carrying a sword inside the federal parliament.

Mr. Mann has been dubbed by critics as an extremist who in April called Sikhs not to back the Indian Government in the event of a war with neighbouring Pakistan over Kashmir, which is disputed by New Delhi and Islamabad. He said then that Sikhs, who form a majority in Punjab, were fighting "for democracy, constitutionalism and human rights.... The world has changed but our Rip Van Winkles are still sleeping."

New Delhi in April promised to hold elections in Punjab, where there has been no elected government since May 1987, within six months. The announcement triggered fears that Sikh rebels would gain control of the state assembly. Mr. Mann's Akali Dal has said it was not interested in contesting elections to the Punjab legislature, and called off unity talks with the other faction of the party led by former State Chief Minister Prakash Singh Badal. At least 1,618 people have died so far this year in the bloody Khalistan campaign which erupted in 1983. India accuses Pakistan of arming the militants, but Islamabad has refuted the charge.

Government Reacts

BK3108162890 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 31 Aug 90

[Text] The center has described the statement of the Akali [Dal] leader, Mr. S.S. Mann, demanding the right of self-determination for the Sikhs as unfortunate. In an official press note issued in New Delhi today, it said such a demand is completely out of place in the constitutional setup of the country. The government asserted that unity and integrity of the country cannot be compromised and will be preserved at all costs. The press note criticized

Mr. Mann for having twisted the prime minister's Independence Day speech. It said the government wants to solve the Punjab problem with understanding and love and not with brute force.

All-Party Meeting Views Job Reservation Issue

*BK0409042590 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 4 Sep 90*

[Excerpts] The all-party meeting convened by the government to discuss various issues relating to job reservations has appealed to the students and the youth to eschew violence. It also expressed its deep sense of sorrow over the loss of life and public property in the recent agitation. The five-hour-long meeting, held at the Parliament House yesterday, discussed in detail various aspects of the reservation policy, including the government's decision on the Mandal Commission report and the question of the economic criteria for reservations. The prime minister, Mr. V.P. Singh, presided over the meeting which was attended by leaders of 25 political parties.

Briefing newsmen, the parliamentary affairs minister, Mr. Upendra, said all agreed that there should be job reservation in the central government and public sector undertakings for the socially and educationally backward classes. There was a consensus that the government should take the necessary steps to augment employment opportunities for the youth. He said all the participants agreed that there should be a review of the reservation policy for the backward classes after 10 years.

Replying to a question, the minister said quite a number of parties supported the government's decision to give 27 percent reservation on the basis of the Mandal Commission report, but there was no consensus on the percentage. He however made it clear that the government's decision stands as it has been taken to fulfill the election pledge. Mr. Upendra pointed out that the decision is not sudden and has been reflected in the president's address to the joint session of parliament.

Asked about the proposed five to 10 percent job reservation on the basis of the economic criterion, Mr. Upendra said the issue will be taken up for a further discussion. Replying to a question, he said the government's effort at the meeting was to elicit the views of different political parties to evolve a consensus if possible.

Approached by newsmen, the prime minister, Mr. Singh, observed that the meeting marked a forward movement on the reservation question, though in certain areas there was no agreement. According to the official spokesman, the prime minister gave a background to the government's decision in his opening remarks in the meeting. Mr. V.P. Singh also made it clear that the center will not impose its decision on the state governments. He said that the center is giving attention to the issue of unemployment and the question of increasing job opportunities. The spokesman also said that the law minister, Mr. Dinesh Goswami, apprised the meeting of the legal

position on the reservation issue as reflected in various court judgments over the last 25 years. [passage omitted]

The Congress-I president, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, attended the meeting after the government clarified that the participants were free to raise any issue relating to reservations. He told newsmen later that the government should come out with a comprehensive view on the issue. He also wanted the center to prepare a paper on the basis of the views expressed by various parties for further discussions.

The BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] president, Mr. L.K. Advani, said that the entire situation on the issue could have been different had the meeting been held prior to the government's decision.

Congress-I Declined To Attend

*BK0209084590 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0730 GMT 2 Sep 90*

[Text] The Congress-I has declined to attend the all-party meeting convened by the government in New Delhi tomorrow to discuss the reservation issue. The meeting was precisely to identify the beneficiaries for the proposed five to 10 percent job reservation for the economically weaker sections of the society. The chief whip of the Congress-I Party in parliament, Professor P.J. Kurien, has informed the parliamentary affairs minister, Mr. P. Upendra, that the Congress-I considers that without a proper comprehensive discussion on the diverse aspects of the recommendations of the Mandal Commission, no useful purpose will be served. Professor Kurien alleged that the government did not take the Congress-I into confidence before the decisions on the Mandal Commission recommendations were taken. He said no fruitful purpose is also likely to be achieved out of, what he called, the limited deliberations slated for tomorrow.

Delhi Intellectuals Protest Job Quota Policy

*BK0509163090 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 5 Sep 90*

[Text] In New Delhi, university teachers, students, doctors, and lawyers today marched from the Supreme Court to the Boat Club to protest against the government's reservation policy. The delegation later submitted a memorandum to the president, Mr. R. Venkataraman. Government is confident that all essential services, including public transport, will be maintained in Delhi in spite of the bundh [strike] call given for tomorrow. An official spokesman said that the situation in Delhi was reviewed at a high-level meeting convened by the union home secretary today. Top civil and police officials of the Delhi Administration attended the meeting.

The Patna bundh called by antireservationists evoked lukewarm response. Addressing an all-party meeting held today in the state capital, the chief minister, Mr. Lalu Prasad Yadav, appealed to the people not to be

provoked by the antisocial elements. At a press conference, the chief minister maintained that only one person was killed in yesterday's police firing in Patna.

In Himachal Pradesh, normal life was affected in Una town and district due to continued antireservation agitation by students. At some places, traffic was affected due to prolonged blockade. In Rajasthan, agitationists observed a fast in Jaipur today. Reports from Udaipur say that students indulged in Rasta Roko [Road blockade] agitation.

In Haryana, the government temporarily suspended all its bus services as road blockades and bundhs were organized by the agitating students.

In Gurdaspur, Jullundur, and Amritsar Districts of Punjab, shops were closed and processions were also held. At Machlipatnam in Andhra Pradesh, a total bundh was observed. The agitators ransacked a railway station and delinked bogies [wagons] of a passenger train. In Allahabad, shops and business establishments were closed following a bundh call. Government offices, however, were open and vehicles were moving normally.

Delhi Strike Call Fails To Evoke Much Response

*BK0609100590 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 6 Sep 90*

[Text] The call for bundh [strike] given by the Anti-Mandal Commission Forum in Delhi [to protest government's jobs reservation policy] did not evoke much response today with vehicular traffic virtually unaffected. There were a few sporadic incidents of road blockade and deflating of tires of some DTC [Delhi Transport Corporation] buses. The police has made adequate arrangements to ensure flow of traffic and maintain law and order. Additional police force has been deployed in the capital. Essential services, banks, and government offices are functioning as usual. Our correspondents who went round the city say that most of the shops were closed in the main markets, including Connaught Place and Chandni Chowk, as a precaution.

The All India Youth Federation and All India Students Federation held a rally at the Boat Club in New Delhi today. Youths and students from various parts of the country took part in it. The rally was held in support of their demand of right to work and right to education.

Minister Briefs Parliament on Provinces

*BK0409164590 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 4 Sep 90*

[Text] The union home minister, Mufti Mohammad Sayeed, has asked the Assam Government to take strong measures to improve the law and order situation in the state where elections are scheduled to be held in December. He said the AGP [Asom Gana Parishad—the ruling party in Assam] government should take a political stand against the extremist organization ULFA [United Liberation Front of Assam].

Addressing the Consultative Committee Meeting of parliament members [MP's] attached to his ministry in New Delhi today, he said the Assam accord has been sincerely implemented. According to his information, the updating of the electoral rolls, which was the responsibility of the state government, has also been completed. The home minister pointed out that unless the state government takes a firm stand against ULFA, it will be difficult to ensure fair elections. The minister was responding to some members who expressed concerns over the situation in Assam.

On Punjab, the mufti said that a multi-pronged strategy has been formulated to tackle the situation in the state. The strategy includes participation of representatives of all active national and regional parties in developmental conferences and special measures for ensuring employment of youth in disturbed areas. He maintained that toning up of intelligence machinery and coordinated action by the state and central agencies have brought about some improvement in the situation.

The minister observed that a section of the press continues to give a distorted picture of the situation in the Kashmir valley by exaggerating reports of terrorist violence. He apprised the members of the committee of various developmental schemes prepared for the benefit of the people of Jammu and Kashmir. There was also a plea by a member to have a legislature for the Andaman and Nicobar islands.

Rajya Sabha Adopts Bill on Radio, TV Autonomy

*BK0509140590 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1230 GMT 5 Sep 90*

[Text] The Rajya Sabha today adopted the Prasar Bharti bill to give autonomy to Akashvani [Radio] and Doordarshan [Television], with two amendments pressed by the Congress-I opposition. The first amendment by the leader of the opposition, Mr. Shiv Shankar, and his party colleague, Mr. Jayanti Natarajan, seeks to ensure that the recommendations of the selection committee for appointment as members of the board will be binding. The other amendment by Mr. B.A. Masodkar, also of the Congress-I, empowers the president to remove the chairman or a member (?when) he ceases to be a citizen of India.

A large number of amendments mostly moved by the Congress-I members were either withdrawn or rejected by the house. The house also rejected three motions moved by the Congress-I for referring the bill to the select committee.

The bill, which was earlier passed by the Lok Sabha, will now again go to that house with the two new amendments for its approval.

Strike Cripples Kashmir for Second Day

BK0409113090 Hong Kong AFP in English 1050 GMT
4 Sep 90

[Text] Jammu, India, Sept 4 (AFP)—The Kashmir administration was crippled for a second day Tuesday as government employees pursued a strike demanding the reinstatement of sacked colleagues and protesting alleged "excesses" by security forces. Work in all state government offices in Srinagar, Kashmir's summer capital, and elsewhere in the strife-torn valley was paralysed with top civil servants joining the five-day work boycott, official sources said here.

Some 200,000 government employees were taking part in the strike, which began Monday and caused the virtual collapse of the state administration. The strike has closed all educational institutions, banks, post offices and state-run companies in the valley.

Several employees' unions have jointly sponsored the work boycott to force the reinstatement of colleagues dismissed on charges of involvement with Moslem separatists and to protest alleged atrocities by security forces.

The number of Kashmiris who have lost their jobs—and been arrested—during New Delhi's anti-separatist drive in the northern frontier state is not known. Many Moslem organisations have accused Indian security forces, thousands of whom have been deployed in the valley, of persecuting innocent Moslems.

Kashmir Governor Girish Saxena advised government employees to stop criticising the government and to quit if they were dissatisfied, the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) said. "Let them resign, become politicians and then point accusing fingers at the government," Mr. Saxena was quoted as telling visiting journalists.

PTI said private business in the Kashmir valley was also "badly disrupted" by a 48-hour general strike called by an anti-India group called the Hizbul Mujahideen. Shops were shut and vehicles stayed off the roads in response to the call, which came a day after Moslems observed a general strike in sympathy with the striking government employees, the agency said.

Such strikes have become a common feature in Kashmir, India's only Moslem-majority state, where more than 1,500 people have died so far this year in violence linked to the Moslem separatist campaign. New Delhi has charged neighbouring Pakistan, which disputes Kashmir's 1947 accession to India and claims the state as its own, of training and arming Moslem militants at the forefront of the separatist drive. Islamabad has denied the charges, but extended moral support for the campaign which it calls a legitimate struggle for self-determination.

State Employees Report Security Forces' 'Excesses'

BK0209130090 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 2 Sep 90

[Text] The state government employees in Srinagar will not go on strike from tomorrow. The employees have decided to withdraw their proposed strike, following an agreement with the government. An official spokesman said in Srinagar that some state government employees have brought to the notice of the senior officers that security forces had committed some excesses during operations and some [word indistinct] would be set up to investigate into all these complaints to take appropriate action.

Forces Kill, Arrest Pakistan-Trained 'Terrorists'

BK0109152890 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1430 GMT 1 Sep 90

[Text] In Kashmir Valley, security forces killed three terrorists and arrested six in the five-km border belt today. They also recovered two AK-47 rifles, two hand grenades, and some explosives from them. Six more Pakistan-trained terrorists were arrested by the security forces in Srinagar and Pulwama districts.

In another incident, one jawan [soldier] was killed and two others injured in Kamalahatta when terrorists opened fire at a patrol party. Reports of injuries to 11 other persons in different firing incidents by terrorists in Srinagar City have also come in. In another incident in Sogam, terrorists looted 2 lakh [100,000] rupees from a branch of Jammu and Kashmir Bank.

Police Kill Three in Madras Religious Riot

BK0309060890 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 3 Sep 90

[Text] In Madras, three persons died when police opened fire to quell violent clashes between two groups during a religious procession in (Triplicane) area last evening. About 70 persons, including 30 police personnel, were injured in stone throwing and clashes. Our Madras correspondent quoting official sources says the police had to open fire when lathi [baton] charges and bursting of teargas shells to disperse the violent mob proved ineffective.

Four Hard-Core 'Terrorists' Killed in Punjab

BK0409034890 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 4 Sep 90

[Text] In Punjab, four hard-core terrorists were killed in a fierce encounter in Amritsar District early this morning. The encounter followed when the terrorists opened fire on being challenged by a security force party near Bhirga Bypass. Three rifles and a large quantity of ammunition have been recovered from their possession.

Bombings Reported in Kashmir Valley; Seven Killed
*BK0409064890 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network
in English 1600 GMT 3 Sep 90*

[Text] In the Kashmir valley, seven persons, including an employee of the Indian Air Force [IAF], were killed in incidents of firing and bomb blasts at different places during the past 24 hours. Eight persons, including five security force personnel, were injured. The body of the IAF employee was found last evening at (Machwar) in Srinagar.

23 Killed, 40 Injured in Assam Bomb Blast
*BK0509031490 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 5 Sep 90*

[Text] In Assam, at least 23 people were killed and over 40 injured when a powerful bomb exploded in a state transport corporation bus yesterday. The explosion occurred at Rangia in Kamrup District. Seventeen bodies were recovered from the mangled vehicle. Six persons succumbed to their injuries on their way to the hospital. Official sources said in Guwahati that the actual number of deaths may be higher as a number of bodies were blown to pieces. All the injured have been admitted to the Guwahati Medical College Hospital.

10 Killed in Violence, Police Shooting in Gujarat
*BK0509075690 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0630 GMT 5 Sep 90*

[Text] In Gujarat, 10 persons—seven in police firing and three in stabbing—were killed when violence broke out following stone throwing on religious processions in Baroda, Anand, and Surat yesterday. According to police sources, six persons were killed in Baroda City. Three areas of Baroda City—Paligate, Wadi, and Police Station—have been placed under indefinite curfew. Senior officials are keeping vigil on all the three cities. The situation is reported to be under control.

Delhi Obtains Technology for Jaguar Warplane
*BK0509140790 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1230 GMT 5 Sep 90*

[Text] India has successfully absorbed the technology for indigenous manufacture of the Jaguar, the deep-penetration strike aircraft. The Indian Air Force engineers have integrated some new systems, which have been cleared after flight tests. This gives the Jaguar great accuracy and a three-fold increase in weapon-aiming capability.

The AIR [All-India Radio] correspondent, Sachindra Mohan Sinha, who witnessed the striking power demonstration of the Jaguar at a forward air base in Gorakhpur, reports that the entire communication equipment of the aircraft is designed and produced at HAL [Hindustan Aeronautics Limited], Purwa.

Iran

Rafsanjani Receives UAE Minister Al-Nu'aymi
*LD0509112390 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 5 Sep 90*

[Text] This morning, President Hashemi-Rafsanjani received Rashid 'Abdallah [al-Nu'aymi], minister of state in charge of foreign affairs of the United Arab Emirates [UAE]. During the meeting Rashid 'Abdallah conveyed sincere greetings from Shaykh Zayid, head of state of the UAE. Subsequently, referring to the recent victories of the Islamic Republic of Iran, he added: Your Excellency Mr. President, Shaykh Zayid has charged me with the mission to offer to your excellency and to the great Iranian nation, warmest greetings on his behalf as well as on behalf of the government and the nation of the UAE, and to congratulate you on the victories which you have achieved through hardship and commendable resistance.

Referring to the occupation of the State of Kuwait by Iraq, he added: Your Excellency Mr. President, you are aware of the fact that we are confronting a great difficulty which is the aggression by Iraq against Kuwait. The Islamic Republic of Iran was the first country to condemn that aggression; we thank you for adopting such a stance.

The UAE minister of state in charge of foreign affairs, referring to the Iranian nation's rich culture and long history, told the president of our country that it is necessary for the Persian Gulf littoral states to have expanded cooperation with the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Thanking the UAE head of the state for his kind message, President Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: As you know, from the very beginning we, as a matter of principle, declared our opposition to the occupation of Kuwait by Iraq and we condemned it. He stressed: We do not accept any kind of change in the geography of the region. We believe that Iraq's aggression against Kuwait has brought about the massive presence of foreign forces in the Persian Gulf region—especially in the country in which holy Mecca and the holy sanctuaries of God and the Prophet of Islam are situated.

At the end of his remarks Hashemi-Rafsanjani stressed the need for ever increasing cooperation among the countries of the region. According to this report, Mr. Velayati, minister of foreign affairs, was also present at this meeting.

UAE Minister Concludes Visit
*LD0509112990 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 5 Sep 90*

[Text] The UAE's minister of [state for] foreign affairs this morning, before his departure from Tehran, referred to the recent victories of the Iranian nation with regard to Iraq's acceptance of the legitimate positions of the Islamic Republic of Iran and said that his government had always endorsed the 1975 [Algiers] agreement and

that following the adoption of Resolution 598 by the [UN] Security Council, the said agreement's legal strength has increased.

Mr. 'Abdallah al-Nu'aymi, the UAE minister of state for foreign affairs, on departure from Tehran, in an interview with our correspondent said that during his visit to Iran he handed over the written message of Shaykh Zayid, the amir of the UAE [title as heard], on the recent developments in the Persian Gulf region, to Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the president of the Islamic Republic of Iran. In his talks with Iranian authorities he praised the Islamic morale of the people and the authorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran. He also exchanged views on the Persian Gulf crisis. He said his country's position with regard to the crisis was that of Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait and reconstitution of the government of that country.

ICRC Head Visits, Meets Deputy Minister

LD0509174790 Tehran Television Service in Persian
1700 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] The head of the International Committee of the Red Cross [ICRC], who arrived in Tehran this afternoon, met the deputy foreign minister in charge of international affairs and discussed the issue of transfer of foreigners in Kuwait and Iraq through Iran.

He praised the humanitarian measures taken by the Islamic Republic of Iran in facilitating such a move and announced the readiness of his organization to aid this. The deputy foreign minister, noting the large number of requests for transit via Iran, said that he welcomes any assistance offered by the international community to aid this humane move.

Paper Says Nation May Provide Aid for Iraq

NC0609083490 Paris AFP in English 0826 GMT
6 Sep 90

[Excerpt] Tehran, Sept 6 (AFP)—Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz is due to visit Iran on Sunday, while Tehran is reportedly ready to provide its traditional foe Iraq with food and medical supplies, despite the international embargo imposed after the Iraqi annexation of Kuwait. The official Iraqi News Agency (INA) monitored in Nicosia reported Thursday that Mr. 'Aziz would head a delegation making an official visit.

The announcement coincided with a report in the daily Tehran Times that Iran might provide food and medical aid for Iraq. "Since according to the U.N. resolutions food and medicine are not included in the sanctions so far imposed on Iraq, by choosing to help the Iraqi people Iran will not be breaching any international law," the paper said referring to the embargo endorsed by the United Nations Security Council on August 6.

Since Iran's border is close to Iraq, Tehran "is certainly able to solve almost all the food and medicine problems the 15 million population of Iraq is presently facing," the

paper, considered close to the government of President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, said. The sanctions were triggered by Iraq's August 2 invasion of Kuwait and its annexation of the oil-rich emirate four days later.

The Tehran Times said Iran had every right to view the current Gulf crisis "from its own national interest perspective" given the West's "treacherous approach" during the eight-year war between Iran and Iraq. It added: "If need be, Iran can charge Iraq a transit fee and allow that country to use Iranian ports for transportation of food and medicine."

On Wednesday, U.S. Secretary of State James Baker said Washington could ask the Security Council to vote on an air blockade of Iraq if the current maritime embargo proves inadequate. If the U.N. committee on violations proves ineffective, the United States would be free to seek authority to intercept flights carrying in supplies to Iraq, Mr. Baker warned. [passage omitted]

Previously Hijacked Plane Returned From Iraq

LD0509165490 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] An airliner belonging to the Islamic Republic of Iran which had been hijacked and taken to Iraq returned to the Islamic homeland today. The aircraft, a Falcon jet, which belonged to the National Air Services Company—Asman—landed at Mehrabad international airport this afternoon.

During the imposed war three Iranian airliners were hijacked and taken to Iraq. Currently a technical team from the Islamic Republic Airline is in Iraq preparing an airbus which should return home very soon.

Petroleum Minister Discusses Oil Prices, Market

NC0609104890 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0430 GMT 6 Sep 90

[Text] As the situation in the oil-rich Persian Gulf has become more complicated, the price of oil on the world markets has returned to that which prevailed before the OPEC consultative session.

In connection with this, Petroleum Minister Mr. Aqazadeh said the following: The price of North Sea oil, which had dropped to \$26.50 a barrel as a result of the psychological effects of last week's OPEC consultative session, increased to \$31.50 a barrel the afternoon of 5 September.

Mr. Aqazadeh was speaking at a political roundtable yesterday along with the deputy petroleum minister for commercial affairs. Aqazadeh added: Rather than being a reflection of oil supply and demand in the market, the price of oil is now influenced by the crisis in the oil-rich Persian Gulf area and the psychological repercussions in the market.

The petroleum minister referred to the extensive oil reserves amassed by the companies and the industrial countries which are members of OECD and of the International Energy Agency—IEA—and said: The western companies with oil reserves are anticipating higher prices, and they are not currently interested in offering their oil reserves to the market.

During the same interview, the deputy petroleum minister rejected the possibility that the current Persian Gulf crisis will have ill effects on Iranian oil exports. Referring to the experiences gained during the eight years of war, he said: The different ways in which oil products were exported by Iran and the fact that our country owns a large oil fleet, which is the second largest fleet in the world, ensures the continuity of Iranian oil production and exports.

Speaking about Iran's programs for setting up and expanding petrochemical installations as well as for gas export programs, Petroleum Minister Mr. Aqazadeh pointed to the five-year and ten-year plans for expanding the country's petrochemical industries and said: The potential of Iran's gas reserves is equal to 100 billion barrels of oil reserves and during the five-year plan, correct plans for infrastructural investments and for determining value added prices [the market price of a product minus production expenses and raw material prices] inside the country for the oil and gas resources have been foreseen.

Interviewed on OPEC Meeting

NC3108075390 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0430 GMT 31 Aug 90

[Text] Petroleum Minister Mr. Aqazadeh returned to Tehran after attending the OPEC supervising committee's session in Vienna. The Central News Unit reports that the petroleum minister gave an exclusive interview to our correspondent. On the outcome of the Vienna session he said: Before this session, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, and Venezuela had increased their oil production in a bid to (?overcome) its psychological impact on the oil market. This, coupled with diplomatic activities in the region, led to a drop in prices of a few dollars. This was their objective behind the meeting.

He added: If diplomatic activities in the region are not successful, oil prices will increase again. But we think that during this consultative meeting, which was not an official session, no need to increase production was felt. We explained that the industrial countries have enough reserves for 98 days of consumption. Their daily consumption is 37 million barrels. If they reduced their reserves for 10 days, they could have compensated for the non-production of Iraqi and Kuwaiti oil for 90 days. But they did not touch their reserves and this was a form of pressure on OPEC. Thus, the members committed a great mistake in increasing production. This was the best opportunity to call on the industrialized countries to use their reserves.

At any rate, with the understanding among the members, they increased production. But we announced that they do not have permission to do so and that this decision is not legal.

On the prices of Iranian oil, the petroleum minister said: On the basis of prices that we have in hand, our light oil is sell for up to \$27 [per barrel] in Asia, while in North Europe this price is \$26. With the price ranging between \$26-\$27, the fluctuation of our oil price is one dollar. Heavy oil too ranges between \$25 to \$26 [a barrel]. The price of North Sea oil today is \$26.50. Prices today are strongly influenced by regional conditions, and with the exacerbation of the tension prices will rise.

Rafsanjani Receives Cuban Sugar Industry Minister

LD0509123690 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] During his meeting this morning with President Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the Cuban minister of the sugar industry handed the president a written message from Fidel Castro. The minister said: The objective of my visit is to give maximum dynamism to the expansion of economic ties along with the good political relations already existing between the two countries.

He said that the stands of Iran and Cuba on international issues are very much the same. He then informed the president of Mr. Castro's willingness to expand relations between the two nonaligned countries of Iran and Cuba in all fields.

The Cuban minister briefed President Hashemi-Rafsanjani on his talks [in Iran] on agriculture, medical services, and especially the cultivation of sugar cane and sugar production.

Thanking Fidel Castro for his kind message and his efforts to expand relations, Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: We look on Cuba as a good friend of ours; in the years since the victory of the revolution we have seen political cooperation between the two countries. Although economic cooperation has not reached the desired level, we hope that with due regard to your proposals the level of economic cooperation will rise. Mr. Kalantari, the minister of agriculture of our country, was also present at this meeting.

Outgoing Ambassador Meets USSR's Lukyanov

NC0609094690 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0330 GMT 6 Sep 90

[Text] At the end of his tour in the Soviet Union, our ambassador, Heyrani-Nowbari, met with Anatoliy Lukyanov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet. The Central News Unit reports that during this meeting Lukyanov expressed satisfaction over Iran's conditions having been accepted by Iraq and over the withdrawal of Iraqi forces and the release of prisoners of war. The Soviet official also pointed to his country's stand on the current Persian Gulf crisis, Iraq's occupation of Kuwait,

and the dispatch of foreign forces to the region and said: The Islamic Republic of Iran can play an outstanding role in solving this crisis.

During the meeting, our ambassador referred to the stands of the Islamic Republic of Iran and said: Iran has always pursued the principled stand on the need to condemn the aggressor. During the past decade it has reiterated that the condemnation of the aggressor is a necessary element for regional and world security. Now the current reality in the region confirms this stand.

The ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran pointed to the American military expedition to the region and described this overture as a type of aggression against the region. During this meeting Mr. Heyrani-Nowbari handed a written invitation from Majlis Speaker Mr. Karrubi to his Soviet counterpart, the chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

UNIIMOG Commander Meets Iranian Officials

*NC3008072390 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0330 GMT 30 Aug 90*

[Text] General Jovic, commander of the United Nations Iran-Iraq Military Observers Group [UNIIMOG] and the delegation accompanying him met with the deputy information and operations commander of the General Command and head of the military organization in charge of the implementation of Resolution 598 at the General Staff headquarters yesterday.

During this meeting the deputy information and operations commander of the General Staff welcomed General Jovic and his delegation and thanked God Almighty for His assistance in the great victory of the Iranian people and expressed his hope that Resolution 598 will be fully and rapidly implemented.

During the meeting the head of the committee monitoring the withdrawal and the remarcation of borders on the basis of the 1975 [Algiers] agreement was introduced to General Jovic and his delegation. At the end of the meeting a \$67,000 check representing the amount collected by the UNIIMOG forces in Iran was handed over by General Jovic as assistance for the quake-stricken people of our country to the deputy information and operations commander and head of the resolution implementation organization.

Rafsanjani Appoints Official for War Regions

*LD0509170790 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 5 Sep 90*

[Excerpt] President Hashemi-Rafsanjani has issued a decree appointing Mr Mirzadeh, vice president for administrative affairs, as his special representative in the department for overseeing the affairs of war-stricken regions. [passage omitted]

Ahmad Khomeyni Urges Firm Stance Toward West

*LD0409135690 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 4 Sep 90*

[Text] A group of the proud and ever-victorious liberated POW's of the Islamic Republic were received by Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Haj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni, in the Jamaran mosque this morning.

In that meeting at which the liberated POW's demonstrated their profound and intense sorrow at the loss of the imam by flagellating themselves, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Haj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni, having lauded the courage, victories, patience, and self-sacrifices of these dear ones who have always been and will be a source of pride to the Islamic system and community, reaffirmed the lofty ranks of the martyrs and the liberated victors.

Elaborating on the highly sensitive condition of the Islamic revolution, and the political situation in the country and the region, as well as the liberation of the liberated POW's, Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni expressed his felicitations on the recent victories and reiterated the need to remain alert and prepared vis-a-vis the conspiracies hatched by the world-devourers.

Commenting on the hostilities of the United States toward the Islamic revolution, the Iraqi onslaughts, the martyrdom of thousands of our compatriots by the conspiracies hatched by global arrogance and its agents, the aid given by the rulers of Kuwait and Arabistan [Saudi Arabia] to Iraq throughout the war with Iran, Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni expounded on the policies of the countries in the region. He said: At present the enemies of Islam are preoccupied with each other, hence we should defend our Islamic tenets, the blood of the martyrs, the imam's aspirations and the leadership of the system, with a revolutionary zeal, and condemn the entire conspiracies waged by the United States and the West in the region.

On the efforts made by the West to establish proximity and contact with the Islamic Republic of Iran, he said: Notwithstanding their efforts toward attaining proximity with Iran, through the medium of their press and media, they make it seem as though it is us who are seeking to establish relations with them, while the world is aware that under no circumstances are we prepared to budge an inch from the tenets and objectives of our revolution. The enemies of the revolution should know that the system of the Islamic Republic will not adopt a soft stance against them, because the U.S. allies will not pursue the same policy for a long period. The war in the region will strike the West with the most massive blow. Ultimately, the blockade imposed against Saddam will either break or culminate in a war. We beseech the Almighty to preoccupy the enemies of humanitarianism and Islam with one another, so that revolutionary Iran can turn toward the propagation of Islamic tenets.

Today, the world is thirsting for pure Islam. We should never place comfort before the objectives of the revolution. The catalyst behind the popular uprising against the shah was the issue of the defence of Islam—nothing other than an attack against arrogance and support for the deprived. Due to the geographical situation of the region, any delay in action will certainly silence and stifle the revolution, hence suffering the same fate as the other revolutions. Today we see our dear leader, the government, and the system continuing to stand firm vis-a-vis the United States, and God willing, our nation will continue to stand firm to the end. Adopting a soft stance has never been and will never be to the advantage of the revolution. Adoption of a soft stance in any form is tantamount to treachery to the imam and his sacred aspirations.

Poll Indicates Majority Favors Opening to West

NC0509103290 Beirut AL-SHIRA' in Arabic
3 Sep 90 p 5

[Unattributed report entitled: "Top Secret"]

[Text] A U.S. message has recently been delivered to Iranian President Hashemi-Rafsanjani, showing a willingness to free the massive Iranian financial assets frozen since the time of the deposed shah.

The message "advises" Iran to take measures in two stages simultaneously with the release of financial assets. In the first phase, Iran is asked to abandon slogans inciting revolution. In the second phase, Iran is asked to provide facilities leading to the return of U.S. military bases to Iran.

A public opinion poll conducted by the Iranian leadership before the recent earthquake showed that 65 percent of the Iranians favor an opening to the West together with the establishment of free and dignified living conditions in Iran. Another poll conducted after the earthquake and the flow of Western assistance to the disaster area showed the percentage to have risen to 80 percent.

Commentary Views 'New Alignment' of Gulf Troops

NC0309204590 Tehran RESALAT in Persian
13 Aug 90 pp 1, 12

[Mohammad Sarafraz commentary: "The New Alignment of Troops and the Exacerbation of the Tension in the Region"]

[Text] The new alignment of troops that began among the regional countries after Iraq's occupation of Kuwait will probably be followed by a great world war and crisis.

After the agreements between the United States and the Soviet Union and the end to the two-bloc system, one regional hotbed after another began to cool down. But history has shown that every time an "international system" is upset, a great world war or crisis follows. After the collapse of the two-bloc system, "the balance of

power" in the Persian Gulf was upset and Iraq—dissatisfied with this collapse—launched a war against Kuwait. Iraq had gained its strength from that very two-bloc system in order to confront a new phenomenon which was called "the Islamic revolution." Now it has risen against the same elements of that very system. Saddam probably intended to kill the Kuwaiti amir in a surprise attack and, after occupying Kuwait, start negotiations about the new government there.

At that point, it probably planned to send thousands of Iraqis and Palestinians and thus change Kuwait's demographic character. Thus, whatever form the future government in Kuwait took, it would still be Iraq's puppet.

When this plan was not fully realized, the countries of the world called for the restoration of the rule of the al-Sabah family in Kuwait. Iraq thus had to annex Kuwait. The Iraqi Ba'thist Party believes that the Arab countries should achieve unity under the leadership of their party: "The Arab nation is like a tree. The trunk of the tree is Iraq and Kuwait is only one of its branches!" The Ba'th Party had an insatiable desire to swallow Kuwait.

Meanwhile, a new alignment of forces can be seen among the regional countries. This can be attributed to the decisions adopted by the Arab heads in Cairo.

During the Cairo summit a decision on sending Arab forces to [Saudi] Arabia was approved by a weak and shaky majority. Apart from Egypt, which has sent limited number of troops to Arabia under U.S. pressure, the regional countries are facing serious problems as far as this is concerned and the dispatch of multinational ground forces will possibly not be warmly received. (Apparently Pakistan also intends to send forces to Arabia). In the new alignment of forces by the Arabs, countries like Algeria, unified Yemen, Tunisia, Jordan, Sudan, and Mauritania do not agree with Arabia's steps on the deployment of U.S. forces. The conclusion that can be drawn is that these countries are, like Iraq, dissatisfied with the collapse of the old system and are facing new conditions as a result. In Yemen, Jordan, Somalia, Tunisia, Libya, Sudan, Mauritania, the occupied territories, and so on people have demonstrated against America and its hegemonistic designs. The Soviet Union is in a similar situation. The Moscow government should not be dissatisfied with a great crisis that will inflict minimal losses on it until a new world system emerges. In the meantime, the Soviets will continue their restructuring. The departure of several thousand Soviet diplomats and citizens from Iraq reveals Moscow's views as far as the exacerbation of the tension in the future is concerned.

The important question is which of the two—Iraq or America—will take the next step.

In an overt retreat, America did not respond to a request by the Kuwaiti rulers for military intervention and considered the red line of its operations to be Arabia's borders. Arabia also stated that the presence of foreign forces is merely defensive in nature and that no attack

would take place. Of course, it is possible that this policy will be pursued only until the buildup of American troops and materiel is completed. But America continues to be weak as far as a ground attack against the Iraqi forces is concerned.

Meanwhile, Saddam, who feels himself to be in a critical situation, announced proposals that should have been announced over a period of a few months at one go, and he altered the slogan of "the master of the Persian Gulf" to the slogan of "leadership of the Arab world." He sent a message to all the Arabs on ousting the foreign forces. By playing on the general dissatisfaction among the Arab nations toward their regimes and the general poverty in these countries, he started to incite their nationalistic and even Islamic feelings.

In his latest proposal, Saddam set out conditions for withdrawing from Kuwait despite the fact that he had annexed it. These conditions included Israel's withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories, Syria's withdrawal from Lebanon, the withdrawal of Western forces and especially of America from Arabia, and withdrawal on the Iran-Iraq border.

America and Israel opposed this proposal. This can rekindle the cease-fire. And Iraq has added a few divisions to its forces on the Arabian border.

Probably Iraq's Ba'thist regime will take the next step to emerge from this phase so that it can, in its opinion, increase its support.

Editorial Comments on Nature of Iraqi Regime

NC2008162690 Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL
in English 12 Aug 90 p2

[Editorial: "A Case of Distrust"]

[Text] Why has the Islamic Republic of Iran been so vociferous in condemning the Iraqi aggression on Kuwait? After all Kuwait was not such a friendly country toward Iran when needed it.

Almost all ranking Iranian government officials have made a statement on the invasion issue and in one way or another reprimanded Iraq for the act it initiated against Kuwait.

Ironically, of all the countries in the world none seems to have a foreign policy that is presently more seemingly harmonious or in agreement with that of the Islamic Republic than Iraq. Some of the statements issued in recent days by the Iraqi regime look as though they were prepared in Iran. There are many stunning similarities between Iran and Iraq's positions vis-a-vis such important and controversial issues as: the Persian Gulf, the United States and the West, the "reactionary" Arab states, the holy sanctuaries and Israel.

Iran had all along argued that the region's most precious commodity, namely oil, had an artificially low and

unfair price and struggled to change that. But its campaign in this connection was not that successful due to opposition by a number of reactionary Arab states who had no stake in higher oil prices. The Iraqi regime was instrumental in changing that trend and the combined efforts of Iran and Iraq produced tangible results in this connection.

Iraq's seemingly anti-American stance is hard to believe. It seems to be presently staunchly anti-American and anti-West—as if they did not help it in its war against Iran—and opposes their presence in the Persian Gulf just like Iran. It is arguing that the issues of the waterway including its security, should be rested with the region's littoral countries concerned.

Baghdad used the word "corrupt" in reference to the Saudi rulers and has called them unfit to rule over the holy sanctuaries. This is just like what Iran had said when the Saudi police in most brutal fashion martyred more than 400 Iranian pilgrims during a rally in Mecca in 1987. To drum up support for its cause Baghdad has also asked true Muslims to rise in order to overthrow the extravagant Saudi rulers.

Iraq's stance vis-a-vis the state of Israel is seemingly a copy of that of Iran. The Islamic Republic has always argued that Israel is the root cause of all Middle East problems and when it began the rapprochement stage of its foreign policy with some Western countries Israel and South Africa were very consciously excluded.

Iraq was also the factor behind the improved atmosphere of relations between the two countries. Iraqi leader's letters to President Rafsanjani acted as a breakthrough in the peace talks despite Iran's insistence on the unchangeability of U.N. Resolution 598 and 1970 [date as published] (Algiers) accord. Iranian government officials have been generally content and optimistic with the progress of the peace talks so far. Also another gesture of friendship by Iraq was the dispatch of humanitarian assistance to Iranian quake victims which was subsequently thanked by the Iranian government.

Now, in view of the massive help given by Kuwait—and other Persian Gulf Arab shaykhdoms—to Iraq in order to finance its aggression against Iran during its imposed war and also their complete contravention of Islamic and human spirit to help their neighbor (Iran) in its reconstruction and other postwar endeavors, why is then Iran so concerned with Iraq's invasion of Kuwait?

The answer lies in the nature of the Iraqi "Ba'thist regime" and that of its leader. Iran might well have been manipulated by all the concessionary moves given so far to prepare it for the planned aggression until such times as Iraq would establish its power over Kuwait and then go back to its original hostile and inflexible stance.

Generally, the Iraqi regime is notorious for its unreliability. It does not recognize foes or friends. It is an opportunist and its ideas are motivated by extreme Arab

nationalism, its resort to Islam goes back to this opportunistic nature. It has shown strong penchant for destruction. For some irrational reason the once thriving city of Khorramshahr was completely and utterly razed to the ground when it was under its occupation. In addition, the regime's decisions are racially motivated. Many of the now Iraqi refugees in Iran and other countries of the world were made so for having been ancestrally connected to Iran.

Iraq's decisions and its subsequent breaches of them are influenced by the requirements of time. For instance, when Iraq felt assured that it could take advantage of the chaos during Iran's post-revolutionary period, its leader tore up the 1970 [as published] Iran-Iraq Algiers border agreement in front of national T.V. audience. It also has a low opinion of friendship or camaraderie.

President Mubarak must have been one of the last people to realize Iraq's low esteem for friendship. Based on the promise made to him by the Iraqi regime, he put his honor as the leader of Egypt in between to assure Kuwait that there would be no military aggression against it. But Iraq launched the aggression the moment it felt—and wrongly so—it could get away with it.

In retrospect, it seems Iraq and its leaders owed more gratitude to Kuwait in view of all the economic, diplomatic, psychological... helps it provided them during their eight years of imposed war on Iran.

It should be mentioned that it is sometimes argued here that the whole crisis with its characteristic oppositions to Israel, U.S. imperialism, Islam and struggle for the right of the deprived masses might have stemmed from a desire to divert attention from the Islamic Republic of Iran as the source of all the slogans.

Editorial Says West Influenced Iraqi Belligerence

NC1008214890 Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL
in English 5 Aug 90 p 2

[Editorial: "A Product of Their Own Making"]

[Text] Let's look for a moment at the issue from a different angle. If the Americans can invade Panama or Grenada on an odd fancy or for the sake of raising their self-confidence, the Russians can invade Afghanistan and bring havoc upon that country over a period of half a dozen years, or the Britons can circle the world to expel the Argentines from their own land (i.e., Malvinas), why can't Iraq invade Kuwait? After all, Iraq is just as ambitious.

When Americans invade a country, it is said, they do it either to defend their country's "vital interests" or out of sheer benevolence to "restore or institute democracy" there. Other Western countries use more or less the same reasoning as the U.S. to justify their aggression upon others. Poor Iraq must have taken the U.S. aggression against other countries as a model to go ahead with its plan, and this is where it falls into the trap.

First of all one bad deed cannot justify another. If the U.S. invaded Grenada or Panama and violated their national sovereignties it made mistakes and the Americans know their acts can never be justified by any ethical standard. Second, Iraq does not possess an international media system to play with or mislead world public opinion as it wishes. Third, Iraq is not one of the world powers whose deeds are always and invariably "right".

The Western countries use a double standard; one for themselves and another for all other countries. Iraq must have figured it could take advantage of this duality. But, alas, Iraq is wrong and its aggression upon Kuwait can never be legitimized, no matter how elaborate pretexts it tries to come up with.

The whole world is surprised by Iraq's erratic act toward Kuwait. It was so sudden and unexpected that it was not easy to digest. Everybody is running in to condemn the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and is asking it to withdraw from that country. But no one seems to be concerned with the root cause of this act. Fact of the matter is that Iraq was trained by Western media as well as unrestricted military, economic and diplomatic support to become an invader country that it is. On second thought, maybe the whole world minus the Persian Gulf shaykhdoms and the Western world. Why? Because Iraq, or the regime there, is a product of their own making, their baby, to be exact.

The reactions coming out of the Persian Gulf shaykhdoms, despite their joint defense pact, have been very subdued. The Western world's reactions away from the freeing of Iraq's and Kuwait's funds at Western financial institutions plus some talk about military intervention have not been much and understandably so. How can the Western governments come up with any harsher punitive measures against Iraq, if until a few months ago it was the "good guy" on the (Persian Gulf) block.

Of all the countries in the world none must be presently happier than Israel about what is happening in Kuwait. It can lay assured, more so than before, that no harm can ever come to it from the "Arab nation" and that the idea of Arab unity is a mere sham.

The Islamic Republic since its inception had always argued that the Iraqi regime was expansionist by its very nature. Iraq used the revolutionary fervor in the wake of the Islamic Revolution to launch one of the century's longest and costliest aggressions against Iran. Although it failed to materialize its goal, Iraq, nevertheless, inflicted destruction on a major part of Iran on a massive scale. Having been itself subjected to aggression, Iran was one of the first countries to condemn Iraq and ask for its immediate and unconditional withdrawal from Kuwait. However, condemnation is not the general and undisputed feeling among the Iranian public. Some people look with a sigh of relief at the invasion, arguing that the Iranians are being avenged for the bankrolling of uncountable number of missiles by Kuwait and other Persian Gulf countries that were dropped on their heads

by Iraq leading to the killings and maimings of many innocent people. The Western media conveniently called this unilateral act as the "war of cities", the cities being all on the Iranian side.

During its ten years of war against Iran, Iraq violated every imaginable international rule and regulation on the conduct of war, culminating in the violation of the most sacred of them. That is, the non-use of chemical arms. Iraq violated that on a massive scale setting a dangerous precedent for other countries to follow and giving rise to the feeling that rules and laws are disposable when in distress. In the face of these brutalities the Arab world kept a deafening and consenting silence, thinking that it can only happen to Iran.

The Arab Persian Gulf countries sold oil in place of Iraq and pumped dozens of billions of dollars into its war machine. The Western world, on the other hand, took the money and advantage of the situation to arm Iraq to the teeth, not properly considering the consequences of their act. With the unrestricted help from the two camps along with Western media cooperation Iraq became what it is today: an incorrigible creature, highly temperamental, easily agitated and in short the monster that it has become today. Kuwait it consumed, Saudi Arabia may be the next in line.

Editorial Views King Husayn Mediation Efforts

NC0109050690 Tehran ABRAR in Persian
15 Aug 90 p 1

[Editorial: "The Regional Crisis and Changes by the Minute"]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. At a time when there is a profusion of diplomatic shuttles in the region as well as consultations and exchanges of messages among the officials of various countries and a great deal of international coming and going, King Husayn of Jordan left for Washington following a meeting with Saddam.

This comes at a time when the numerous events of the past 24 hours in the crisis-ridden Persian Gulf, beginning with the naval blockade of Iraq by the West, have assumed a new dimension with Jordan breaking away from the economic siege against Iraq.

King Husayn's objective during his visit to Washington is to justify his action of seceding from the economic blockade of Iraq, to familiarize himself with the U.S. stance, and to convey a message from Saddam to the American leaders.

However, in view of the fact that, whether he likes it or not, the Jordanian king's fate has been linked to Saddam's for the past 10 years, it appears that in keeping with his political character, King Husayn is playing the role of mediator between Iraq and Washington.

The Iraqi propaganda apparatus has, from the outset of the Kuwaiti crisis, endeavored to divert world attention from the usurpation and annexation of Kuwait by focusing on other issues such as Saddam's proposals for his withdrawal from Kuwait.

King Husayn's visit to Washington can be considered in the context of Baghdad's propagandistic policy or actually its plot to create a new crisis in order to overshadow the Kuwaiti one and another breach in the wall of the economic blockade against Iraq. The Islamic Majlis speaker's warning based on the fact that the Western world is attempting to embroil Iran in the Persian Gulf crisis makes it imperative that Iran, as the only capable force in the region, remains prepared and vigilant.

At present, Iran is in a position which requires that it take steps to strengthen and expand its forces more than ever before, and this should remain on the agenda of our officials until the crisis ends in the region. The strength and capability of Iran's prestigious forces should prove a deterrent to enemies who are contemplating any embroilment with Iran.

Meanwhile, some Western analysts are attempting to project Iran's appropriate stance, which is geared to the protection of Iran's national interests, as a tilt toward the West, while others are seeking to depict it as leaning toward Iraq. This contradiction indicates that Iran's policy regarding the Kuwaiti crisis has been in favor of neither the Western interests nor of the fomentor of tension in the Persian Gulf region.

In any case, the complicated, sensitive, and unpredictable situation in the region demands that Iran's reputation be safeguarded in every possible way.

Editorial Considers Consequences of Iraq Embargo

NC3108162890 Tehran ABRAR in Persian
13 Aug 90 p 1

[Editorial: "Economic Sanctions and the Siege Against Iraq"]

[Text] The effects of the economic siege against Iraq are gradually becoming apparent in the cities of that country. The Iraqi officials' request to the people to practice austerity in the consumption of foodstuffs and other commodities borders on a threat.

Despite the Iraqi Government's claims of an abundance of foodstuffs, it does not seem possible that this country will be able to endure the economic siege for more than 60 days at most. At present, no outlet is open to Iraq on land, at sea, or in the air. The passage of a few thousand Iraqi trucks transporting a variety of goods through Turkey has been halted. The ships which were carrying cargo bound for Iraq are either docked in ports or were halted en route.

The disinclination of the West, and particularly of the United States, to enter into a direct confrontation in the region is the reason for the rigid enforcement of the

sanctions and economic siege against Iraq. In view of the limited possibilities for a country faced with an economic embargoes, Saddam seems to have only two options before him:

- To elicit sympathy and attention from many countries in order to break the economic embargo.
- To attack Saudi Arabia in order to transfer the scene of conflict away from its borders and the borders of usurped Kuwait.

There is no doubt that there are countries which might provide assistance to Iraq to help it during an economic siege. However, one needs to ask what these countries will gain from Iraq in return. Iraq's economy is in a state of utter disarray, and it has not even had the opportunity to avail itself of Kuwait's wealth. This reduces to a cipher the possibility of Baghdad being able to dole out financial benefits. However, Iraq would definitely be able to mete out some political benefits.

An Iraqi attack on Saudi Arabia will only be inevitable if it cannot find any supporter or helper among the countries of the region and the world. In such circumstances, only an attack on Saudi Arabia could mitigate Iraq's difficulties for a while.

Will the West remain silent in such conditions? What is certain is that the West can only avoid becoming embroiled in a war in the Persian Gulf if it ignores Persian Gulf oil for an indefinite period of time. However, this would mean that the people of Europe, Japan, and the other oil-importing countries will be shivering in the violent cold of the approaching winter.

Paper Criticizes Continued Amal-Hizballah Dispute

LD0509081890 Tehran IRNA in English 0803 GMT
5 Sep 90

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 5, IRNA—The English daily 'KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL' Wednesday editorialized on the agreement reached between the two Lebanese Muslim factions, Hizballah and Amal, under the pressure of Iran and Syria to end infighting and criticized both groups for having wasted their material and human resources in fighting one another instead of their sworn enemy.

On and off fighting between the two Shiite Muslim factions has claimed thousands of lives and has brought nothing to the deprived masses of Lebanon but death and destruction, it added. Referring to numerous peace pacts signed by the two factions, the daily said they have so far signed these agreements "only to scrap when they have regained their fighting power."

The paper attributed the infighting to the lack of "flexibility on or ability to sit down and engage in a true give-and-take situation." It stressed that the differences among the two factions are not irreconcilable and are outweighed by their commonalities. "The futile fightings will eventually force out—if it has not already done so—those among the population that can serve, leaving behind unskilled and illiterate people who can only

consume and contribute nothing. Also excessive attention to obtaining battlefield capability by the two factions would give rise to a generation of youth who can only fight and destroy with no skill or ability to contribute to construction," said the daily.

Ironically the two groups talk so much about unity and fraternity, but get engaged in fighting whenever they get a chance, said the paper adding that the two groups "must have matured enough to realize that their conflict is part of greater interests and that the final solution to it cannot be determined by them on the battlefield."

***UK Conditions for Normalization Rejected**

90AS0349A London KEYHAN in Persian 16 Aug 90 p 1

[Text] The English government's lack of interest in renewing political relations with the Islamic Republic regime has disappointed the regime's officials. Reacting to the British Foreign Ministry's preconditions for renewing relations with the Islamic Republic regime, Musavi, the general political manager for the Islamic Republic's Foreign Ministry announced, "for us, no conditions are acceptable for the resumption of political relations."

After the Islamic Republic expressed a sudden interest in renewing political relations, officials of the British government announced that before political relations are resumed Roger Cooper, who is in Evin Prison, must be released, and that the Islamic Republic regime must guarantee the release of three British hostages in Beirut.

The recent remarks by Musavi, the general political manager for the Islamic Republic's Foreign Ministry, have postponed for the time being the immediate resumption of political relations with England sought by the regime.

Nepal & Bhutan

Japanese Amity Group Arrives in Kathmandu 3 Sep

OW0409054390 Tokyo KYODO in English
0332 GMT 4 Sep 90

[Text] Kathmandu, Sept. 4 KYODO—An 11-member Japanese goodwill mission arrived here Monday on a two-week visit to Nepal. The group, organized by Japan's Prime Minister's Office is led by Takahiro Yamada, a counselor in the office's Youth Affairs Division. It includes Japanese youths from both government units and the private sector. The mission aims at promoting mutual understanding and friendship between the young people of Japan and those of Nepal.

Government Seeks To Overcome Economic Difficulty

BK0209013690 Hong Kong AFP in English 0125 GMT
2 Sep 90

[By Marie-France Rouze]

[Text] Kathmandu, Sept 2 (AFP)—After burying absolute monarchy and installing parliamentary democracy, Nepal is now faced with a harder task: improving living conditions in one of the world's poorest countries. "Now the people expect economic changes," explained Finance Minister Devendra Pandey. "I think we have to deliver things right away, but it is difficult."

Mr. Pandey is one of 11 members of an interim coalition cabinet installed in April by King Birendra, who gave up his royal prerogatives as absolute monarch after six weeks of pro-democracy protests that left some 500 people dead. He was preparing to fly to Paris to present his case and explain his reform projects at a conference of lesser developed countries opening this week.

"When I took over, the situation was much worse than anticipated," he said in an interview, citing a litany of economic ailments ranging from "postponed decisions and malpractice" to embezzlement. "The country is wretchedly poor and resources are concentrated into the hands of a very limited part of the society," he explained. According to figures put out by his ministry, the average Nepalese made 158 dollars last year.

But the figure does not tell the whole truth because part of agricultural production is not included in the money economy while some industrial output is exported on the black market. "My policy is oriented towards the poor—they have to be brought into the mainstream," he said. "We have to allocate resources."

He said reforms were necessary to make many of Nepal's wealthy pay their fair share of income tax. He said he was preparing a wealth tax which would affect "no more than a few hundred families but it's an important signal." The coalition government he serves includes members of the Centrist Nepali Congress Party, the Unified Leftist Front (ULF) and independents.

A constitutional commission is due to present the king with a draft charter in a few days that will pave the way for legislative elections in April. Mr. Pandey said his attempts at reform were blocked by the "schizophrenia" of certain members of government who believed they did not have a mandate to undertake major changes.

More importantly, he said, "neither the congress nor the ULF have spelt out their economic policy." Sahana Pradhan, minister of commerce and industry and president of the ULF, said, "We are going to draft a trade policy act and an industrial policy act, but not very soon."

"We will have to prepare an economic policy for the elections," she said. "We have not formulated it yet because this is an interim government." Referring to the economic outlook of the ULF, she said, "We will be leaning towards a socialist economy." This lack of a set policy, coupled with a rash of labor demands since the interim government took office, have translated in recent weeks into enormous salary hikes.

The telecommunications service was the first to fall to the surge of demands, with management handing out 40 per cent pay increases. The Nepal Bank was next, followed by the police and Army, a foreign banker said. "Things took such a turn that finally employers threatened lockouts," the banker said.

The finance minister said Nepal also had to face other inflationary factors. A trade dispute with India, which was resolved in June after 14 months, caused some imported products to climb 35 per cent in price in one year. Though the dispute was resolved, Mr. Pandey explained that some products, which sell for more in India, are short here or have skyrocketed in price.

"We are trying to see that the price situation does not get out of hand," he said. Mr. Pandey acknowledged that Nepal had "not done our homework" in the field of development, where nearly 70 per cent of projects are financed by foreign aid. Aid had increased, he said, but it was necessary to coordinate the various projects. "Donors have to put more priority on the needs of this country, not compete or take into account their commercial interests," he said.

Nation To Import 125,000 Tons of Coal

*BK0309095990 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 3 Sep 90*

[Text] Nepal is to import 125,000 tons of coal from India during the current fiscal year. An agreement to this effect was signed in Kathmandu.

AIR [All India Radio] Kathmandu correspondent, Harish Segon, said that Nepal is getting coal from India 35 percent cheaper than what it pays for coal imports from other countries. An Indian delegation led by the MMTC [Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation] chief general manager, Dr. B.B. Malik, was in Kathmandu to discuss price and supply of coal.

Pakistan

Troops in Saudi Arabia Said Separate From U.S.

*BK0609153590 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 6 Sep 90*

[Text] Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan has reiterated that the Pakistani troops sent to Saudi Arabia have nothing to do with the U.S. task force present there. Talking to newsmen in Islamabad today, he said the Pakistani troops will return home after the resolution of the Gulf crisis.

Answering a question, the foreign minister said efforts are on at different levels to find a solution to the Gulf crisis, which will be based on the withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait. At present, Pakistan is maintaining a skeleton staff at its embassy [in Kuwait], but it does not have any diplomatic status.

Yaqub Khan said the continuing negotiations to resolve the outstanding issues between India and Pakistan cannot be termed as successful or otherwise at this stage.

Leaders' Defense Day Messages Stress Kashmir

*BK0609131590 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 6 Sep 90*

[Excerpt] The Defense of Pakistan Day is being observed today. The president and the prime minister in their messages on the occasion said that the day provides us an occasion to reaffirm the national will to defend and preserve the territorial integrity and political independence of the country at all costs.

In his message, President Ghulam Ishaq Khan said that we observe the day with reference to the heroic resistance that the people and Armed Forces of Pakistan put up in 1965 in the face of foreign aggression. The day has therefore become a symbol not only of national solidarity, but also of valor and fighting quality of our soldiers and the morale and faith of our brave people. The president said that Pakistan is again facing an external threat not only in the form of belligerent statements, but from the forces massed at our border and along the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir. The situation is a cause of concern as the country had thrice been subjected to aggression in the past. He said that inside occupied Jammu and Kashmir brutal oppression is being practiced. Pakistanis naturally feel pain at the suffering of their Kashmiri brothers. The tension caused by violation of human rights and oppression and deployment of troops pose a threat to peace in the region. Ghulam Ishaq Khan said that Pakistan is a peace-loving country and has no aggressive designs against anyone. But let others understand that we also know as in 1965 how to defend ourselves. The president hoped that world public opinion will finally assert itself, adding that a durable peace and stability in South Asia can be achieved only by granting the self-determination right to the Kashmiris.

Prime Minister Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi in his message said that 25 years ago, an enemy, many times our size, threatened the integrity and sovereignty of Pakistan. Our valiant Armed Forces with the support of the people halted the aggressionist's attack and dealt it a crushing blow. He said once again our dear homeland is threatened as the occupying power is trying to suppress the brave struggle of our brothers in occupied Jammu and Kashmir. Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi said as a country that believes in peace and rejects the use of force in settling disputes, Pakistan seeks a peaceful solution of the Kashmir problem. He expressed the hope that India, keeping in view the prevailing international climate of peace and freedom and paying heed to reason and good-neighborliness, will agree to honor the international commitment to allow the people of Jammu and Kashmir to exercise the right of self-determination. He said our Armed Forces have the best wishes and trust of the nation. If the security of the country is threatened again, then our brave people will respond the challenge with the same zeal and patriotic spirit as they displayed in 1965. The prime minister said that the government despite

its resource constraints will continue supporting all programs aimed at improving the capability of Armed Forces.

The chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee and three services chief have also issued messages on the occasion. Today is a public holiday and the national flag is hoisted on all principal public and private buildings. [passage omitted]

Official Announces General Elections Schedule

*BK0609084890 Islamabad Overseas Service
in English 0800 GMT 6 Sep 90*

[Text] The Election Commission has announced the schedule for the forthcoming general elections. Announcing the schedule in Lahore today, the chief election commissioner, Mr. Justice Naimuddin, said for elections to the National Assembly, the last date for filing of nomination papers will be the 12th of this month. Objections against nominations can be filed between the 13th to the 15th, while scrutiny will be held between the 16th to the 19th of this month. Appeals against decisions of the returning officers could be filed before the election tribunals from the 20th to the 23d, and their decisions would be announced between the 24th to the 29th of this month. Last date for withdrawal of candidature will be the 30th of this month and the final list of the candidates would be notified on the 1st of next month.

For provincial assemblies, the last date for filing of nomination papers will be the 15th of this month. The detailed schedule for provincial assemblies would be announced on the 8th of this month from Islamabad.

The chief election commissioner said the commission has finalized arrangements to hold the elections according to the schedule as announced by the president, Mr. Ghulam Ishaq Khan, in his address to the nation on the 6th of last month. He said the Election Commission was working day and night and they had completed visits to all the four provinces and reviewed the election arrangements.

Mr. Justice Naimuddin called upon the voters to use their right of franchise with a spirit of national duty. It may be recalled that the elections to the National Assembly constituencies will be held on the 24th and the provincial assemblies on the 27th of next month.

Ordinances on Election, Special Courts to Senate

*BK0309035290 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 3 Sep 90*

[Text] Federal Minister for Law and Parliamentary Affairs Chaudhuri Amir Hussain laid before the Senate last night the Representation of People's Amendment Ordinance 1990 and the Special Courts for Speedy Trial Ordinance 1990.

The Representation of People's Amendment Ordinance 1990 provides for ways and means for holding of free,

fair, and impartial elections. Among other things, it makes national identification cards mandatory for voting. The ordinance also prescribes the limit on election expenses of contesting candidates. It also lays down rules for qualification and disqualification of candidates.

The Ordinance for Establishment of Special Courts for Speedy Trial of offenses provides for day-to-day trial of cases. The special court shall not adjourn a trial until in its opinion it is necessary to meet legal requirements. No adjournment shall be for more than 2 days.

PPP Leader, Jatoi Discuss Elections

BK0509161290 *Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu*
1500 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] A prominent leader of the Pakistan People's Party, Makhdum Khaliqzaman, called on Prime Minister Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi in Islamabad today. The talks reviewed the current political situation in the country with special reference to Sindh. Makhdum Khaliqzaman also exchanged views with the prime minister on the steps being taken to hold the forthcoming elections in a free and fair manner.

PPP To Withdraw Two Petitions on Dismissal

BK0609145590 *Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English*
6 Sep 90 p 8

[Text] Islamabad, Sept 5—The Pakistan People's Party [PPP] has decided to pursue only one petition challenging the dissolution of assemblies pending before the Peshawar High Court.

Similar petitions filed in the Lahore and Sindh High Courts will be withdrawn immediately.

The decision is aimed at preempting a Federal Government move to get all these petitions clubbed together in one high court. Attorney General Aziz A Munshi has moved the Supreme Court to the effect.

Former Law Minister Iftikhar Gilani spoke to PPP Co-chairperson on Wednesday and advised her to instruct her party leaders to withdraw the petitions without any delay.

He told THE MUSLIM that Ms Bhutto had agreed to the suggestion and had asked the petitioners to withdraw the petitions.

Legal experts, however, say it is up to the high courts whether to allow their withdrawal or not.

The most important petition in the eyes of the PPP leaders is the one pending before the Peshawar High Court. The next date of hearing has been fixed Sept 9 while the Federal Government's application will be heard on Sept 8 by the Supreme Court in Lahore.

Court Dismisses Petition Against Special Courts

BK0509160090 *Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu*
1500 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] A division bench of the Lahore High Court dismissed a writ petition today which challenges the setting up of special courts under the Parliament and Provincial Assemblies Membership Disqualification Order 1970. Giving its verdict on the writ petition filed by Dr. (Abdul Basif), the division bench comprised of Mr. Justice Ehsanul Haq Chaudhuri and Mr. Justice Malik Mohammad Qayyum said at this stage it is inappropriate to admit the petition for hearing without making any affected person a party in the case. The court further ruled that a writ petition which challenges the dissolution of the assemblies is already under consideration and the special courts could be challenged only after a ruling on this matter is issued.

Briefs Against Bhutto Ministers Sent to Courts

BK0509104590 *Lahore THE NATION in English*
5 Sep 90 pp 1, 8

[By our staff reporter]

[Text] Lahore—References against three former Federal Ministers Khawaja Tariq Rahim, Jehangir Badr and Ghulam Muhammad Ahmad Maneka have been submitted to two Special Courts headed by Mr Justice Munir A. Sheikh and Mr Justice Rashid Aziz.

These references have been sent by President Ghulam Ishaq Khan. The Deputy Attorney General for Pakistan, on behalf of the Federation of Pakistan presented these references to the Registrar of the Special Courts. The hearing of these references will commence from Wednesday [5 September]. Mr Justice Munir A. Sheikh will hear references against Khawaja Tariq Rahim and Jehangir Badr while Mr Justice Rashid Aziz will decide the matter concerning Ghulam Ahmad Maneka.

It has been mentioned in the references that if allegations were proved then these former Ministers would be disqualified from taking part in the general elections for a period of seven years.

Meanwhile, some references are likely to be received on Wednesday against the dismissed PPP [Pakistan People's Party] Government Ministers. Two other Special Courts headed by Mr Justice Abdul Majid Tiwana and Mr Justice Tanvir Ahmad Khan can also award rigorous imprisonment besides disqualifying the accused persons.

The day-to-day hearing is likely in the Special Courts. The respondents former Federal Minister will be issued necessary show-cause notices as to why they may not be disqualified on charges of corruption under the Parliament and Provincial Assemblies Disqualification order, 1990 for seven years. [sentence as published]

It may be remembered that under the aforesaid Order of November 25, 1977, four Special Courts have been set

up in Lahore and an OSD [officer on special duty] of the Lahore High Court, Mr Abdus Salam Khawar has been nominated as the Registrar of these Special Courts.

On behalf of the Federation of Pakistan Deputy Attorney General of Pakistan Sheikh Abdul Manan would appear as the Special Prosecutor.

Our Islamabad Bureau adds:

Sources in the capital believed that reference against Mr Jahangir Badr, claims that the former Petroleum Minister went against increase in the oil price close to the vote of no-confidence only for political reasons. [sentence as published] This decision later resulted in a hike of 10 percent. "If the government had gone with the increase, appearing in the international market, the overall affect would have petroleum products not more than five percent."

The reference also contains a letter of Mr Roshan Ali Bheemji, the Financial Advisor of the former Prime Minister, who opposed the delay in increasing the oil price.

Jahangir Badr is also accused of getting lots from some Australian and Swiss companies and cancelling sanctions to certain other companies of international repute.

This decision alienated some Canadian companies busy in exploring natural resources for years in Pakistan. Nawab Buge opposed the changes. The conflict between Mr Badr and Nawab Bugti cost the public exchequer a loss of Rs [rupees] 2 crore, including the expenditure incurred on the visit of experts to Balochistan thrice in March 1989.

Kh. [Khawaja] Ahmad Tariq Rahim is accused of purchasing 25 Pajeros out of funds of Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs. These vehicles bought for the purpose of distributing among the MNAs [members of National Assembly] committing a vote in favour of Ms Bhutto during the time of no-confidence motion.

Kh. Tariq Rahim is also accused of writing off bills outstanding to parties in Lahore, Faisalabad, and Hub when serving as the Minister of State looking after WAPDA [Water and Power Development Authority].

Mr Rahim is also being prosecuted against for "spending one crore of rupees from the funds of WAPDA for the entertainment of 'foreign visitors'". No foreign visitor, according to the government ever entertained by the Minister.

He is also accused of spending Rs one million for renovation of a Habib Bank Rest House which never took place.

Mian Ghulam Ahmad Maneka, who crossed from the IJI [Islami Jamhoori Ittehad] benches to PPP Cabinet, is accused of striking a deal with an Indian Muslim, Mustafa Bhai—a business tycoon operating from Dubai, by which 1000 workers were sent abroad violating the rules. UAE Government also resented the deal.

Charges Against Maneka Detailed

BK0509170590 Islamabad Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] The special court headed by Mr. Justice Rashid Aziz Khan in Lahore today issued notice to the former federal minister, Mr. Ghulam Mohammad Ahmad Khan Maneka, on the reference received against him on behalf of the president. He has been charged with abusing his office as federal minister to secure a bank loan of 41.640 million rupees in an unlawful manner, for getting the payment of a previous bank loan rescheduled thrice and also exerting pressure on the Finance Ministry to waive the interest on these loans. The notice was issued to the ex-minister for the 12th of this month after scrutiny of the material placed before the court and a brief explanation by the deputy attorney general, Mr. Abdul Mannan.

The lauded judge observed that from the material placed before the court it appeared that the respondent had been guilty of acts amounting to misconduct as defined in Clause A of Article Two of the Parliament and Provincial Assemblies Disqualification From Membership Order 1977.

The charges against Mr. Ghulam Mohammad Ahmad Maneka are: He got a loan sanctioned from the ADBP [Agriculture Development Bank of Pakistan] for setting up a milk sterilization plant. Thereafter, he also got sanctioned a loan of 41.640 million rupees by mortgaging a title to Bank of Equity in violation of ADBP credit manual and without prior approval of ADBP. This loan was obtained by him in abuse of his power as a federal minister. The loan sanctioned to him by ADBP was 55.597 million rupees out of which 54.337 million rupees had already been disbursed to Messrs. (Pak Patan) Dairy Limited of which the respondent was one of the directors. This concern failed to repay any half-yearly installment and the total debt including interest against this concern came to 94.449 million rupees on the 30th of June this year. Thereafter, using his position as a federal minister, he got the repayment to ADBP rescheduled thrice without depositing minimum 10 percent of the outstanding installment which was mandatory and thereby ADBP incurred a loss of 2.48 million rupees. He also, by using his influence as a federal minister, got a meeting of the Finance Ministry convened with bank officials to consider waiving the interest of 35.6 million rupees on the principal amount.

The other court headed by Mr. Justice Munir A. Sheikh began scrutiny of material against ex-federal ministers, Khawaja Ahmads Tariq Rahim and M. Jehangir Badr. The lauded judge demanded certain clarifications about some documents from the deputy attorney general who prayed for time to furnish the same. The court accordingly adjourned the matter till the 12th of this month.

850 People Repatriated From Amman, Riyadh 3 Sep*BK0309155590 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 3 Sep 90*

[Text] Pakistan International Airlines repatriated 850 Pakistanis from Amman and Riyadh by four special flights today. The national flag carrier will operate two flights each from Amman and Riyadh, thereby bringing home nearly 1,200 people.

Government Protests Afghan Violations of Airspace*BK3108154290 Islamabad THE PAKISTAN TIMES
in English 31 Aug 90 p 1*

[Text] Islamabad, Aug. 30—On July 12, 1990 at 6.29 a.m. one Afghan fighter aircraft entered Pakistan airspace over the North Waziristan Agency area.

On Aug. 24 at 7.15 a.m. another Afghan aircraft entered Pakistan airspace over the North Waziristan Agency area.

The Afghan Charge d'Affaires was summoned to the Foreign Office today and strong protest was lodged with him over these unprovoked intrusions. He was asked to inform his authorities that if such violations did not cease the entire responsibility for the serious consequences would rest on the Kabul authorities.

Kashmir Mujahidin Admit Killing Indian 'Agent'*BK0309122690 Islamabad THE PAKISTAN TIMES
in English 2 Sep 90 p 9*

[Text] Rawalpindi Sept. 1—An organisation of the Kashmiri Mujahidin Allah Tigers has accepted the responsibility of killing an Indian intelligence bureau agent Ghulam Rasool Kambay.

The sources of Kashmir Liberation Movement informed the Agency [as published] that the traitor was ambushed by the Kashmiri Mujahidin when he was driving to his office.

Meanwhile, a court of Hizbul Mujahidin sentenced to death an informer of the occupation administration who was later hanged to death. It is reported that the informer had confessed the mass killing of Muslims at the hands of the Indian troops on the basis of information supplied by him.

Police Seize Weapons, Issue Court Orders*BK0109092390 Karachi DAWN in English
31 Aug 90 p 4*

[Text] Sargodha, Aug 30—In the wake of a special drive, police have recovered large quantity of illegal arms and submitted challans [prosecution orders] of 1920 persons

to special courts. This was stated here on Thursday by Mr Ahmed Naseem, Deputy Inspector General [DIG] of Police Sargodha range.

He said that arms so far recovered included 50 Kalashnikovs, one light machinegun, five Stenguns, 19 handgrenades, 222 rifles, 557 12 bore guns, 275 pistols, 250 revolvers, 646 carbines, 87 daggers and knives and 17,990 cartridges.

The DIG Police said that stringent measures have been taken against the dacoits and robbers as a result of which a car-lifter gang was apprehended in Bhalwal. The accused Ghulam Murtaza, Javed Iqbal, Abdul Hadi and Mukhtar Ahmed of Rahimyar Khan, Mohammad Asim, Muhammad Shaheen of Gujrat have been arrested. This gang was active in the whole province. During investigation, four cars and nine motorcycles worth Rs. [rupees] 9.20 lakh [100,000] were recovered from them. Consequently, they were challaned in 17 cases.

Continuing, the DIG said that a notorious burglar gang was also busted which was committing burglaries in Sargodha city. The accused Aftab Ali, Ghulam Shabbir, Moliammad Ramzan, Javed Iqbal and Patras, Masih were arrested. Jewelry, motorcycles, tape-recorders and three stolen 7-MM rifles were recovered and they had been challaned in eleven cases of burglary, theft and keeping illegal arms.

ISSUANCE OF NIC [National Identity Cards]: The Federal Interior Minister has directed the registration offices in the country to gear up its work for the issuance of national identity cards.

The registration office here has received a direction to start work on war footing to issue NICs to the people as the production of it has been made compulsory by the Election Commission of Pakistan for voters in the forthcoming general elections.

The registration offices have been directed to constitute special teams to visit remote areas along with photographers to issue identity cards.

The administration in each district has been advised to provide transport and other assistance to registration staff to carry out the task of national importance.

The eligible voters who do not possess NICs should contact the local Registration Office and in case of any problem report direct to the Interior Minister for appropriate action.